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## Germany busts bizarre coup plot by far-right cell

**Agence France-Presse**
FRANKFURT

A prince, an ex-MP and former soldiers were arrested on Wednesday in raids led by the German police against members of a far-right "terror group" that allegedly planned to attack parliament and overthrow the government.

The group had organised a "council" to take charge after the putsch, as well as a "military arm that would build a new German army", chief federal prosecutor Peter Frank said at a press conference.

"Some members of the terrorist organisation also considered using force to enter the German Bundestag (parliament)," Mr. Frank said.

President Frank-Walter Steinmeier told a radio station that he was "deeply concerned" by the alleged plot, describing it as a "new level".

Around 3,000 officers including elite anti-terror units took part in the early morning raids and searched more than 130 properties, in what German media described as one of the country's largest-ever police actions against extremists.

'REJECTION OF FREE ORDER'
» PAGE 11

## Why is Parliament silent on voiding of NJAC, asks V-P

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

In any democracy, parliamentary sovereignty is inviolable, Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar said in his maiden speech as the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha on the first day of the Winter Session of Parliament on Wednesday.

He chided the two Houses for not taking cognisance, over the past seven years, of the Supreme Court judgment setting aside the Constitution Amendment to constitute the National Judicial Appointment Commission (NJAC) in 2015.

This is the second time in the last week that the Vice-President has raised the issue of "judicial incursion" into the legislative domain.

Mr. Dhankhar said the amendment had been passed by both Houses and approval by 16 Assemblies. However, on October 16, 2015, the Supreme Court ruled by a 4:1 majority that it was not in consonance with the Basic Structure of the Constitution and scrapped the legislation.

He said there was no parallel to such a development in democratic history as a duly legitimised constitutional prescription had been judicially undone. He called it a "glaring" instance of a severe compromise of parliamentary sovereignty and disregard of the mandate of the people.

> It is disconcerting to note that on such a momentous issue, so vital to democratic fabric, there has been no focus in the Parliament
>
> **JAGDEEP DHANKHAR**
> Vice-President

The "basic structure", Mr. Dhankhar said, is the prevalence of primacy of the mandate of the people reflected in Parliament.

"It is disconcerting to note that on such a momentous issue, so vital to democratic fabric, there has been no focus in the Parliament, now for over seven years. This House, in concert with the Lok Sabha, being custodian of the ordainment of the people, is duty bound to address the issue, and I am sure it will do so," he added.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 8

# RBI goes slow on rates, limits increase to 35 bps

Worldwide slowdown can dent India's growth to 6.8% from the 7% projected earlier, says central bank Governor Shaktikanta Das, but adds that the worst of inflation is over for the country

**Vikas Dhoot**
NEW DELHI

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Wednesday raised the policy repo rate by 35 basis points (bps) to 6.25%, downshifting gears from consecutive increases of 50 bps, and scaled down GDP growth hopes for the year to 6.8% from 7%, even as Governor Shaktikanta Das exuded confidence about the economy being resilient and asserted that "the worst of inflation" was behind us.

A 100 basis points equal one percentage point. The central bank retained its inflation projection for 2022-23 at 6.7%, noting that inflation will ease but stay well above the 6% upper tolerance limit set for the RBI.

Mr. Das vowed to keep an "Arjuna's eye" on evolving inflation dynamics, even as cooling global prices for crude oil, commodities and other items extend hope of relief.

Having hovered well over RBI's upper tolerance limit of 6% since January 2022, retail inflation eased slightly on a sequential basis to 6.8% in October, but Mr. Das noted that core inflation remains sticky and the medium-term outlook "is exposed to heightened uncertainties from geopolitical tensions, financial market volatility and the rising incidence of weather-related disruptions".

RBI Deputy Governor Michael Patra said the moderation of inflation will be "very grudging, very uneven" so the central bank must first "shepherd inflation firmly into the tolerance band (below 6%) and then to the 4% target".

The RBI now expects inflation to average 5.9% in the January to March 2023 quarter, drop to 5% in the first quarter (Q1) of 2023-24 and edge up to 5.4% between July and September 2023, assuming a normal monsoon.

The central bank believes that the economy is "resilient" with the Q2 of 2022-23 clocking 6.3% GDP growth, in line with its estimate, and economic activity gaining further strength in October bolstered by urban consumption and a recovery in discretionary spending. However, it expects GDP growth to wane to 4.4% in Q3 and 4.2% in Q4 owing to adverse spillovers from the global slowdown and its negative impact on India's exports and overall economic activity.

"The biggest risks to the outlook continue to be the headwinds emanating from protracted geopolitical tensions, global slowdown and tightening of global financial conditions. Real GDP growth is projected at 7.1% for Q1 of 2023-24 and at 5.9% for Q2. Even after this revision in our growth projection for 2022-23, India will still be among the fastest-growing major economies in the world," the statement said.

CONTINUED ON
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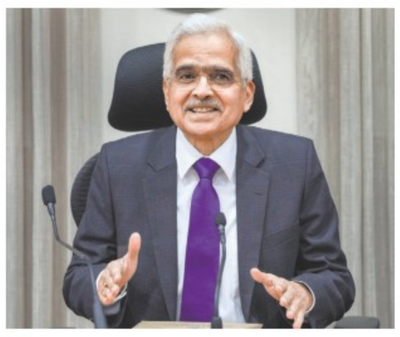
### Resilient economy

What **Governor Das** said in the MPC review:



- **Indian economy is holding on and doing well** in a world of slowing growth and possibilities of recession in several countries
- **High inflation is moderating**. Globally, the same trend is visible with decline in prices of commodities, crude oil and other items
- While inflation is coming down, there is no room for complacency — **we have to be extremely watchful** and act when it becomes necessary
- The story of the Rupee is one of resilience and stability. We remain **committed to act in order to prevent excessive volatility** in the exchange rate
- The Current Account Deficit is eminently manageable — let there be no doubt about it. Our **forex reserves have risen $36.7 billion since October to touch $561.2 billion by December 2**. Our external debt ratios are low by international standards

NEARBY

**Flower show to see many firsts**

BENGALURU
The flower show for Republic Day 2023 in Lalbagh will see many firsts. 'The Evolution of Bengaluru' will be the larger theme. » Page 2

**Metro: HC rejects objection to felling trees**

BENGALURU
The High Court on Wednesday permitted the BMRCL to go ahead with the felling and translocation of trees as approved by the Technical Expert Committee and continue the afforestation activities as per the norm. » Page 3

**Staff under NPS to raise political heat**

BENGALURU
State government employees under the National Pension Scheme (NPS) are planning to turn the tables on political parties by linking their demand for scrapping NPS to the 2023 Assembly polls. » Page 4

## Border dispute: Bus service between Karnataka and Maharashtra stopped

**The Hindu Bureau**
BELAGAVI

Movement of buses across the Karnataka-Maharashtra border was stopped on Wednesday, following protests by activists on both sides over the border dispute.

A Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) official said that services of as many as 250 buses from Chikkodi depot and 80 from Belagavi depot were stopped. North-western Karnataka Road Transport Corporation (NWKRTC) officers said around 150 buses from Maharashtra had not crossed into Karnataka.

Most of the Maharashtra State Road Transport Corporation (MSRTC) buses from Maharashtra to Belagavi were stopped too.

Most buses meant to leave for Maharashtra were parked at the Central Bus Stand in Belagavi on Wednesday. P.K. BADIGER

**Commuters hit**

This caused a lot of inconvenience to commuters in Belagavi, who were seen waiting for hours at the Central Bus Stand. On any given day, officials estimate, around 400 KSRTC buses go to Maharashtra and around 170 MSRTC buses enter Karnataka.

The stopping of the movement of buses followed protests at Hire Bagewadi in Belagvi district where Karnataka Rakshana Vedike activists stoned vehicles, blackened their glass panes, and removed their number plates. This provoked protests in Kolhapur in Maharashtra with Shiv Sena (UT) activists damaging or vandalising KSRTC buses.

Due to the freeze on the movement of buses, the NWKRTC is expected to lose revenue of around ₹20 lakh a day in Chikkodi and ₹10 lakh a day in Belagavi, said K.K. Lamani, divisional transport officer. As many as 10 buses were damaged or vandalised in Maharashtra. "We are willing to operate buses if the situation returns to normal," he said. The Belagavi police were yet to get a written complaint from the KSRTC about this.

**'Appoint Minister'**

Kannada activists, writers, and editors of regional newspapers have urged the State government to appoint a senior Cabinet Minister to coordinate activities of all related departments working towards resolution of the border dispute with Maharashtra. They urged both sides to maintain peace and law and order and let the courts decide the matter. A copy of the resolution adopted at a meeting will be sent to Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai.

NCP SEEKS SHAH'S INTERVENTION
» PAGE 5

## Move to allow SC benefits for Dalit converts flawed: Centre

**Krishnadas Rajagopal**
NEW DELHI

The Centre said in the Supreme Court on Wednesday that the 2007 report of the Justice Ranganath Misra Commission for Religious and Linguistic Minorities, which recommended that Dalits who converted to Islam and Christianity to escape caste oppression in the Hindu religion should be permitted to avail themselves of Scheduled Caste reservation, was "flawed".

"It was written within the four walls of a room. There was no field study done... The commission (Misra) took a myopic view of the social milieu in India. The findings of the Ranganath Misra Commission have not been accepted by the government," Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta, for the government, submitted before a three-judge Bench led by Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul.

Mr. Mehta said a new commission, chaired by former CJI K.G. Balakrishnan, will re-examine the question whether SC status ought to be granted to "new persons" who had converted to religions other than Hinduism, Buddhism and Sikhism.

FULL REPORT ON
» PAGE 8

***Dazzling display***

An aerial show ahead of the 11th reunion and 262nd Corps Day of ASC, at the ASC Centre & College in Bengaluru on Wednesday.
SUDHAKARA JAIN (REPORT ON PAGE 2 )

## AAP secures 134-seat win in municipal polls in Delhi, ends 15-year rule of BJP

**Muneef Khan**
NEW DELHI

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) recorded its maiden victory in the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) election on Wednesday, winning 134 seats and ending the 15-year rule of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) at the helm of the civic body. However, with 104 seats in hand, the BJP suggested that it would still have a say in choosing the next Mayor of the national capital.

The results indicated a neck-and-neck contest between the two parties. Early trends showed the BJP taking the lead, but the AAP soon edged past to clinch the victory.

In vote share terms, only three percentage points separated the two parties, while the Congress was left far behind.

AAP chief Arvind Kejriwal promised to live up to the people's mandate. "Today, Delhi has entrusted its son with the job of cleaning this city's garbage, eradicating corruption from the municipality and putting all parks back in shape. I can't ever pay back for this love but I will do whatever it takes to fulfil every single responsibility with utmost care," he said.

**Famous victory:** AAP workers celebrating the win in the Delhi municipal election at the party's headquarters in New Delhi on Wednesday. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

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Text&Context

THE HINDU

## NEWS IN NUMBERS

### Expected surge in repo rate, the fifth increase since May

**6.25** In percentage, the expected repo rate set by the Reserve Bank raising the benchmark lending rate by 35 basis points (bps) — the fifth increase since May — saying it remains focused on bringing down inflation to a tolerable limit. The move to raise the rate will make loans, including housing, auto and corporate credit expensive. PTI

### Andhra tops the list of CBI cases against legislators in India

**56** The number of legislators against whom cases were filed by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) during the last five years, with charge sheets being filed in 22 cases, the Lok Sabha was informed by the Minister of State for Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions Jitendra Singh. Andhra Pradesh recorded 10 cases against its legislators, the highest for a State. PTI

### Import of coal by power sector sees a significant rise

**38.84** In million tonnes (MT), the import of coal by the power sector in the financial year of 2022-23 in the April-October period, the Parliament was informed. This is a significant increase against a total import of 27MT last fiscal, Coal Minister Pralhad Joshi said. Much of the imports have gone to domestic coal-based plants. PTI

### The number of people suffering from hunger rise in Latin America

**13.2** In million, the increase in the number of people suffering from hunger in Latin America and the Caribbean between 2019 and 2021, according to a report by three United Nations agencies. The rise in food inflation and extreme poverty are reasons behind food insecurity and hunger. About 56 million suffer from hunger in the region. AFP

### Raids against suspected far-right extremists in Germany

**25** The number of people detained across Germany as part of a series of raids against suspected far-right extremists across the country. A German news agency cited federal prosecutors as saying officers conducted searches in 11 of Germany's 16 states against members of the so-called Reich Citizens movement. AP

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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# The impasse over appointment of judges

How did the National Judicial Appointments Commission come into being? Why was it later struck down as 'unconstitutional'? Why is the government insisting on a different system for appointment of judges to the Supreme Court and High Courts? What is the 'basic structure' doctrine?

EXPLAINER

Diksha Munjal

GETTY IMAGES

**The story so far:**

Last week, Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar commented on the ongoing heated debate between the Central government and the Supreme Court over the matter of judicial appointments. Referring to the 2015 verdict of the SC which struck down the National Judicial Appointments Commission (NJAC) and the 99th Amendment, Mr. Dhankhar asked how the judiciary could have run down a unanimously-passed constitutional provision which reflected "the will of people".

**What was the NJAC?**

In August 2014, Parliament passed the Constitution (99th Amendment) Act, along with the National Judicial Appointments Commission (NJAC) Act, which together provided for the creation of an independent commission to appoint judges to the Supreme Court (SC) and High Courts (HC). This commission was to replace the collegium system. The two Bills were ratified by the required number of State Legislatures and got the President's assent on December 31, 2014. Articles 124 and 217 of the Constitution deal with the appointment of judges to the SC and HCs of the country. Article 124(2) states "every Judge of the Supreme Court shall be appointed by the President" after "consultation" with the judges of the SC and the HCs. So, while the collegium system itself does not figure in the Constitution, its legal basis is found in three SC judgments – usually referred to as the 'Judges Cases'. In order to replace this system which received criticism over the years for its lack of transparency, among other provisions, the Constitution (99th Amendment) Act, introduced three primary Articles. Article 124A which created the NJAC, a constitutional body to replace the collegium system, Article 124B which conferred the NJAC with the power to make appointments to Courts and Article 124C which accorded express authority to Parliament to make laws regulating the manner of the NJAC's functioning. Under the NJAC Act, the Chief Justice of India and Chief Justices of the HCs were to be recommended by the NJAC on seniority while SC and HC judges were to be recommended on the basis of ability, merit, and "other criteria specified in the regulations". Notably, the Act empowered any two members of the NJAC to veto a recommendation if they did not agree with it. In the collegium system, senior-most judges make appointments to the higher judiciary.

**Why was the NJAC challenged?**

In early 2015, the Supreme Court Advocates-on-Record Association (SCAORA) filed a plea challenging the provisions which had by then become laws. The SCAORA contended in its petition that both the Acts were "unconstitutional" and "invalid". It argued that the 99th Amendment which provided for the creation of the NJAC took away the "primacy of the collective opinion of the Chief Justice of India and the two senior-most Judges of the Supreme Court of India" as their collective recommendation could be vetoed or "suspended by majority of three non-Judge members". It invoked the Second Judges Case to say that CJI primacy had to be protected. It also stated that the amendment "severely" damaged the basic structure of the Constitution, of which the independence of the judiciary in appointing judges was an integral part. The Second Judges Case of 1993 emphasised the role of the CJI in appointing judges to SC and HCs. "The role of the CJI is primal in nature because this being a topic within the judicial family, the Executive cannot have an equal say in the matter," the verdict reasoned. The "basic structure" doctrine meanwhile refers to the idea that the Constitution could not be amended or read in a manner that destroyed the document's basic structure.

**What were the arguments between the Centre and the Supreme Court?**

Former Attorney-General Mukul Rohatgi, for the Union government, had argued in court that the Second Judges case, invoked by the petitioners was not valid in the case of the NJAC as the "very basis" of the ruling was now gone. The Centre also argued that the Act in no way took away the primacy of the judiciary but in fact, diluted the power of the executive as only one member, the Law Minister, was in the NJAC as opposed to three SC judges. It also said that the amendment was "perfectly consonant" with the basic structure as it strengthened the "independence of the judiciary, checks and balances and democracy". Solicitor-General Ranjit Kumar further argued that the collegium was a "failure" and worked on a system of "intra-dependence", where there was "no transparency".

In October 2015, the five-judge bench of the top court hearing SCAORA's plea gave its ruling, with a 4:1 majority, that the NJAC was "unconstitutional" and violated the "basic structure of the constitution". Significantly, the Bench admitted that all was not well even with the collegium system of "judges appointing judges", and that the time was ripe to improve the system of judicial appointments.

### THE GIST

- In August 2014, Parliament passed the Constitution (99th Amendment) Act, along with the National Judicial Appointments Commission (NJAC) Act, which together provided for the creation of an independent commission to appoint judges to the Supreme Court (SC) and High Courts (HC). This commission was to replace the collegium system.
- In early 2015, the Supreme Court Advocates-on-Record Association (SCAORA) filed a plea challenging the provisions which had by then become laws. The SCAORA contended in its petition that both the Acts were "unconstitutional" and "invalid".
- At that time, Solicitor-General Ranjit Kumar had argued that the collegium was a "failure" and worked on a system of "intra-dependence", where there was "no transparency".

# The debate around conjugal visits for prisoners

Can the right of prisoners to the company of their spouses be recognised as a fundamental right? What are the various judicial interpretations of the same? How is Punjab planning to enforce these visits?

G. S. Bajpai
Ankit Kaushik
Sangeeta Taak

**The story so far:**

The State of Punjab has furthered the cause of right to life and personal liberty of prisoners by allowing conjugal visits for inmates. It is expected that this initiative will lead to strengthening of matrimonial bonds and also ensure good conduct of prisoners.

**What are conjugal rights?**

Broadly speaking, conjugal rights are rights created by marriage, that is, the right of the husband or the wife to the company of their spouse. In the context of prisons, however, conjugal visits refer to the concept of allowing a prisoner to spend some time in privacy with his spouse within the precincts of a jail. It is often argued that conjugal visits can have positive impacts in the form of psychological health benefits for prisoners, preservation of marital ties and, reduction in the rates of homosexuality and sexual aggression within prisons. Aside from the above, it is also argued that conjugal visits are a fundamental right of the spouses of the prisoners. Prisoner rights are internationally recognised through the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights etc. Through such instruments, prisoners are guaranteed the right to life and inherent dignity. The right to maintain family relations including conjugal visits are included in these treaties. Most prison Acts and Rules across the country accept the importance of maintenance of continuity in family and social relations.

**What are the judicial views?**

In the case of *Sunil Batra vs Delhi Administration* (1979, SC), Justice Iyer observed that "visit to prisoners by family and friends are solace in isolation: and only a dehumanised system can derive vicarious delight in depriving prison inmates of this humane amenity." On the specific question of conjugal rights of prisoners, however, High Courts have differed in their rulings. In the case of *Jasvir Singh vs State of Punjab,* a couple convicted of murder and on death row made a petition to the court to enforce their right to procreate. The primary question before the law was whether the right to conjugality and procreation is a part of the right to life. The High Court held that this right to conjugality is available to prisoners under Article 21, subject to restrictions. However, in the case of *Meharaj vs State* (2022), the Madras HC while considering the question of whether conjugal rights form part of the right to life and personal liberty guaranteed by Article 21, observed that there have to be differential standards in enforcement of Article 21 for law abiders and law violators. The Court observed that even though conjugal visits could not be held as a fundamental right, the prisoner would still be eligible to avail leave for conjugal visits if there are 'extraordinary reasons' such as 'infertility treatments.'

**What is going to be the Punjab model?**

The State guidelines clarify that conjugal visits are a matter of privilege rather than a right. It has been notified that the average time for conjugal visits shall be two hours, allowed once every two months. The visiting spouse will have to furnish a proof of marriage and medical certificates declaring that he or she is free from HIV or any other sexually transmitted disease, COVID-19 or any other infectious disease. Moreover, such a facility will not be extended to high risk prisoners, terrorists, child abuse and sexual offenders, death row convicts, prisoners who suffer from HIV etc.

*G.S. Bajpai is Vice chancellor of Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law, where Ankit and Sangeeta are Assistant Professors*

### THE GIST

- The State of Punjab has furthered the cause of right to life and personal liberty of prisoners by allowing conjugal visits for inmates.
- In the context of prisons, conjugal visits refer to the concept of allowing a prisoner to spend some time in privacy with his spouse within the precincts of a jail.
- The State guidelines clarify that conjugal visits are a matter of privilege rather than a right. It has been notified that the average time for conjugal visits shall be two hours, allowed once every two months.

# Cong. alleges deletion, addition of names in R.R. Nagar voters' list

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

The Opposition Congress on Wednesday submitted a petition to the Chief Electoral Officer of Karnataka alleging illegal deletion of 75,000 names, and inclusion of 1.3 lakh names in the voters' list in the Rajarajeshwarinagar Assembly constituency in Bengaluru, and demanded a probe into it.

A delegation led by Bengaluru Rural MP and Congress leader D.K. Suresh called on Chief Electoral Officer Manoj Kumar Meena and submitted the petition alleging that names of a large number of Vokkaliga community voters have been deleted from the voters' list. Many names have been added by providing addresses of vacant sites and vacant houses in the constituency represented by Horticulture Minister Munirathna.

The R.R. Nagar constituency courted controversy when 9,746 voter ID cards were seized from a flat during the Assembly elections in 2018.

Speaking to reporters, Mr. Suresh said 20-25 names have been added in each booth by providing fake addresses of voters. He urged the Chief Electoral Officer to take note of the matter seriously by ordering a probe into the lapses in addition and deletion of names in the voters' list.

# 'Evolution of Bengaluru', the theme for R-Day flower show

The flower show in Lalbagh will be organised on a big scale this time. The Glass House will have no pictorial display, and the history of the city will be theme-based at different locations around it

**Jahnavi T.R.**
BENGALURU

A file photo of the Republic Day flower show in Lalbagh.

The upcoming flower show for Republic Day 2023 in Lalbagh will see many firsts. Organised entirely by the Horticulture Department without the support of Mysore Horticulture Society, which has been traditionally spearheading the show for many decades now, this year the flower show will be organised in a "wide scattered manner" in areas surrounding Glass House, and will have an overarching theme with various sub-themes.

"The Evolution of Bengaluru" will be the larger theme. The installations and floral arrangements will trace the development of the city from medieval times up until the modern day, department officials revealed.

"So far, we have had individual themes but this time, with sub-themes, we want to highlight how Bengaluru was up to the year 1500, then in pre-independence time, post-independence and the Bengaluru of today. They will be different chapters" Rajender Kumar Kataria, Principal Secretary, Horticulture Department told *The Hindu*. The department has also started taking inputs from different sources for the depiction of the history.

"We have decided to organise the flower show on a big scale this time. The Glass House will have no pictorial display and the history of the city will be theme-based at different locations around it," Mr. Kataria said. The department expects to see at least 15 lakh to 20 lakh people in attendance as the theme is appealing to all the residents of the city. There will be no changes in entry fee.

While flowers from other countries are also made use of during flower shows, this time the department plans to throw more light on the varieties within the country. "We are not bringing in many varieties from other countries as the same ones are now being grown in different parts of our country. We will get flowers from Northeastern states, Ooty and other hilly regions of southern India and some places up north", Mr. Kataria said. The installations are expected to begin by the first week of January.

To educate the younger generations about the ecosystem of the country and the history of the society, the department plans to make the show more educative and constructive this year. "There will be panel discussions on topics like shaping the future of Bengaluru, how the natural ecosystem of the city can be preserved. We will also involve all the central government institutions in the city like HAL who have contributed as well as universities," Mr. Kataria said.

## INBRIEF

### Water adalat to be held today

Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) will hold a water adalat on Thursday between 9.30 a.m. and 11 a.m. The adalat will be held at its following sub divisions in the city: North 2-1, South 1-1, South 2-1, South West-1, South West-4, East 1-2, East 2-2, South East 2, South East 5, West 1-2, West 2-2. According to a BWSSB release, the adalat will be held to address the grievances connected to water billing, delay in providing water supply and sanitary connections, delay in converting from domestic connection to non-domestic connection and other related problems. For any issues, regarding the water supply, consumers can contact helpline number 1916 and WhatsApp no. 8762228888.

### KSMCA donates ₹1 crore to CM's Relief Fund

Karnataka State Marketing Communication and Advertising Limited, (KSMCA) a State government enterprise, donated ₹1 crore from its profits for the golden jubilee year 2021-22 to the Chief Minister's Relief Fund. According to a release from KSMCA, its Chairman, M.S. Karigoudar, presented the cheque to Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai and Minister for Large and Medium Scale Industries, Murugesh R,. Nirani. The company has achieved a turnover of ₹358.13 crore and ₹11.14 crore profit after tax during the year 2021-22, the release stated.

**Text & Context**
A weekday feature on *The Hindu* epaper (epaper.thehindu.com) carries explainers, special articles and a quiz. In the latest issue (December 8, Thursday), the following explainer is available:

- The debate around conjugal visits for prisoners
**bit.ly/conjugalrights**

You can use your smartphone's inbuilt features to access this article. If it's an Android phone, use Google Lens to read and tap the url to access the article. If it's an iPhone, use Live Text on camera to do the same.

# Military display teams put up scintillating performance

The full dress rehearsal ahead of the 11th Reunion and 262nd Corps Day of ASC, at the ASC Centre and College in Bengaluru on Wednesday. SUDHAKARA JAIN

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

A military display of Army equestrian sports, paramotor flying, free fall from paratroopers, and flying demonstration by the Indian Air Force's Sarang team was organised here on Wednesday.

It was done as a part of the 11th ASC Reunion and the 262nd Corps Day which is being celebrated at the ASC Centre and College, Bengaluru, on December 8 and 9.

"To showcase the capability of our armed forces and to offer a glimpse into the military might of the nation to the young aspiring minds and to motivate them to join the defence forces, a military display was organised," said the Ministry of Defence.

The display was attended by personnel and families of armed forces, paramilitary forces, police, other defence establishments and schoolchildren. During the display a paratrooper fell on a treetop, however, no injuries were reported.

As part of the 11th Army Service Corps Reunion and to commemorate the 75th year of independence, the Army Adventure Nodal Centre (Microlight) Gaya has undertaken a Microlight Flying Expedition from Gaya to Bengaluru under the aegis of Army Service Corps and Army Adventure Wing, Integrated Headquarters of Ministry of Defence (Army).

The Indian Army Microlight Expedition was flagged off from Gaya (Bihar) on November 30.

The expedition involved a cross-country flight by a fleet of four microlight aircraft over an aerial distance of more than 5,000 km in about 17 days including airshow/maintenance halt. The expedition route was over plains of Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, hilly terrain and plains of Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, and Karnataka. The inclement weather and gusty winds make this an extremely challenging expedition, the Ministry said. The microlight aircraft will perform an airshow at the 11th Army Service Corps Reunion and 262nd Corps Day.

# Attempt-to-murder accused on the run for 5 years caught

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

The night beat police team of Rajagopal Nagar station with the help of mobile Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and Systems caught a man who is an accused in an attempt-to-murder case in Mandya district, and has been on the run for the last five years. Assistant sub-inspector, Ravikumar, and his colleagues were patrolling the streets near Uro farm junction on Monday when they noticed a man moving suspiciously.

The accused was subjected to verification using the m-CCTN mobile app to find that he has on the run for five years. A detailed probe led him to confess that he was involved in an attempt to murder case reported in KRS police station in Mandya district in 2010. The accused was arrested and remanded to judicial custody, and he came out on bail in 2017.

Soon, he escaped to Bengaluru and lived in Laggere under a different identity and was driving an auto to eke out a living.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

This is to inform the general public that our client intends to purchase the Schedule Property from its present owner Mr. B.L. Ramamurthy S/o.Late Lakshmi Narayanappa.

Any person/s having any claim, right, title or interest over the schedule property or any objections to the proposed purchase, may file their objections in writing along with copies of supporting documents to the undersigned within 14 days from the date of this publication, failing which our client will be advised to go ahead and complete the sale formalities.

**SCHEDULE PROPERTY**

Property bearing Sy.No.322/3, situated at Bidaraguppa Village, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, measuring 06.08 Guntas out of 23.12 Guntas and bounded on;
**East by**: Road, **West by**: Private Property, **North by**: Remaining land in the Same Sy.No, and **South by**: Remaining land in the same Sy.No.

Sd/- **Akhila & Associates, Advocates**
#121, LRDE Layout Doddanekkundi, Marathahalli, Bangalore-560037.
**Phone: 9741300393**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**GENERAL PUBLIC ARE HEREBY INFORMED THAT,** my client intends to purchase the Schedule "A" and "B" Properties from the owner **SMT. C.K. KAMALA,** W/o.Subramanyam, having absolute ownership over the properties described in the Schedule hereunder. It is brought to the notice of the general public that, our client has negotiated and decided to purchase the Schedule "A" and "B" Properties from the above said owner. All persons having any claim against or to the Schedule "A" and "B" Properties or any part thereof by way of inheritance, Mortgage, Sale, Conveyance, MOU, Agreement to Sell, G.P.A, City Title Survey Number (CTS), transfer, Last Testament & Will, Lease Deed, Minor Rights, Tenancy, License, Lien, Charge, Trust, Maintenance, adverse possession or otherwise howsoever are hereby required to submit the same in writing along with documentary proof/s to the undersigned office within **15 days** from the date of publication hereof, failing which my client shall proceed without any reference to such claim/s and the same, if any, will be considered as waived.

**SCHEDULE "A" PROPERTY**

All that piece and parcel of the property bearing No.20/1 (Old No.41), having PID No.48-48-20/1, (Eastern Portion of the Schedule Premises) situated at 2nd Cross, R.R.M.R. Layout, Ward-118, Bangalore, measuring **East to West: 30 feet and North to South: 17.6 feet,** totally measuring **528 Sq.Ft** of sital area, with constructed building thereon and bounded as follows:**East By :** Road, **West By :** Remaining portion of the said premises and open space attached thereto, **North By :** 2 ½ feet wide passage to enter the rear portion on the Western side of the Schedule Premises, **South By :** Private Property.

**SCHEDULE "B" PROPERTY**

All that piece and parcel of the property bearing **No.20/2** (Old No.41), having PID No.48-48-20/2, (Western Portion of the Schedule Premises) situated at 2nd Cross, R.R.M.R. Layout, Ward-118, Bangalore, measuring **East to West: 30 feet and North to South: 20 feet, with 2 ½ X 30 feet** passage, totally measuring **675 Sq.Ft** of sital area, with constructed building thereon and bounded as follows:- **East By :** Property No.20/1, Portion of Property belonging to Smt.C.K.Kamala, **West By :** Private Property, **North By :** Property belonging to M.N.Gangappa, **South By :** Private Property.

***GANESH.B.R, Advocate,***
**GANESH LAW ASSOCIATES,** ADVOCATE & SOLICITORS
No.217, 1st Floor, SLN Complex, 4th Main, 3rd Cross, Chamarajpet, Bangalore-560 018.
Ph: 080-79625681; Mob: +91 78926 08987

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

This is to bring to the notice of the general public that our client and **Mrs. KALLIMATADA MAMATHA W/o Mr. Pradeep M Naragund** is intending to purchase the schedule property mentioned hereunder from **Mrs. ANDAL. J (a.k.a) C.T ANDAL W/o. Sri. C.T. Ramalingam**, any person/s objecting for the proposed purchase or are having any right, title, interest, or any type of claim over the scheduled property is hereby called upon to file their objections/claims what so ever along with documentary proof within **7 days** from the date of publication of this notice with the under mentioned advocate failing which; our client shall proceed and complete the sale transaction with the above stated person.

**SCHEDULE PROPERTY**

All that piece and parcel of vacant **Site No.9EM-312,** formed by the Bangalore Development Authority in **Hennur Road, Banasawadi Road Layout 1st Block, Bangalore-560043,** BBMP PID No. 88-250-9EM-312 (New PID No.027-W0175-8) Measuring East to West 12.60 meters and North to South 9.15 meters in all Measuring 115.29 square meters., bounded on the:
**East by : Property bearing No. 9GM-311, West by : 9th 'E' Main road, North by : Property bearing No. 9Em-314 and, South by : Property bearing No. 9EM-310.**

**C.K.V.K. LAW ASSOCIATES**
**Mr. VENKATESH CHANDRAN** M.A., L.L.B.
**Advocates & Legal Consultants**
Bangalore-43. M: 9845846428, 7204863700

GOVERNMENT OF KARANATAKA
**(Karnataka Rural Water Supply & Sanitation Department)**
**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER RURAL WATER SUPPLY & SANITATION, DIVISION KALABURAGI-585105**
Phone No: 08472-278634 Email:eerwssglb14@gmail.com

No:EE/RDW&S/Dvn/Tech/2022-23/2414 Dated : 07-12-2022

**E-PROCUREMENT SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (Two cover)**

The Executive Engineer Rural Drinking water & Sanitation Division, Kalaburagi on behalf of Honorable Governor, Karnataka here by invites separate Technical & Financial bid tender for drinking water works from eligible civil contractor detailed as below

The Tender Document with detailed conditions can be obtained through web site **http://eporc.karnataka.gov.in** and should be submitted through E-procurment system only 1) Name of work: **Sedam taluka-01 (Indent No 43174)**, 2) Head of A/C: DMF, 3) Eligibility of Contractor: Class- II & Above, 4) Tender Amount: **Min 1,03,74,324/- Max 1,03,74,324/-**, 5) Date of Commencement of downloading of Bidding document: **06-12-2022**, 6) Cost of tender form and EMD: As per E-portal, 7) Last Date to submit bids on e-portal: **13-12-2022 4.00pm,** 8) Opening of Techincal Bid: **14-12-2022 4.01pm**, 9) Opening of Financial Bid: **16-12-2022 11:00am**, 10) Address for any clarification reg.tender: Office of the Executive Engineer, Rural Drinking water & Sanitation Division, PRE division 1st floor Kusanoor road Kalaburagi

**Sd/- Executive Engineer,**
**RDW&S Division, Kalaburagi**

DIP/Kalaburagi/936/MC&A/2022-23

**E-TENDER NOTICE**

Sports Authority of India, NSSC, Bangalore invites e-tender for following works:-

1. SAI/NSSC/ENGG/NIT-3/2022-23 for Repairing of Existing Storm Water Drainage near Smart Athletic Track at SAI, NSSC, Bangalore.

For more details please visit E-Tender website
**http://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app,**
**https://sportsauthorityofindia.nic.in &**
**http://www.saisouth-bangalore.com.**

The Last date of Submission of E-Tender is 15.12.2022 up to 16.00 hrs.

Sd/-
Regional Director I/C

**MANGALORE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED**
(A Government of Karnataka undertaking)
O & M Circle, Shivamogga - 577201
Ph: 08182 - 08182-225544 CIN: U40109 KA 2002 SGC 030425

No.: SEE/SMG/EE(O)/AEE(O)/22-23/11558-91 Date: 22.11.2022

**TENDER NOTIFICATION**

MESCOM invites tender for repairing of 1 No. 5 MVA, Andrew Yule make Power Transformer of 33/11kV Hosanagara Substation, Hosanagara Sub-division, Sagara Division in Shimoga Circle. The interested eligible bidders may log on to website **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **08.12.2022** for more information.

**Sd/- Superinteding Engineer (Elecl), O&M Circle Shimoga**

**For Power Related Complaints & Assistance Call Toll Free Number 1912**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

This is to bring to the notice of the general public that our client **Mr. RAVI KUMAR M.G S/o Mr. Gangadharappa** intending to purchase the schedule property mentioned hereunder from **Sri. SANTHOSH MARUTHI S/o. Sri. Maruthi and his wife SMT. JYOTHSNA. P,** any person/s objecting for the proposed purchase or are having any right, title, interest, or any type of claim over the scheduled property is hereby called upon to file their objections/claims what so ever along with documentary proof within **7 days** from the date of publication of this notice with the under mentioned advocate failing which; our client shall proceed and complete the sale transaction with the above stated person.

**SCHEDULE PROPERTY**

All that piece and parcel of the residential Vacant property bearing **Site No. 184F,** comprised in and carved out of residentially converted land bearing Sy No. 1/5, old CMC Katha No.869/1/5-184F, new BBMP Katha No. 919/869/1/5/184-F, in the layout known as **"PENN FIELD GARDENS"**, situated at **Srirampura Village, Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore,** coming under BBMP limits Bangalore and Measuring East to West 40 feet and North to South [44.6+43]/2 feet, totally measuring 1752 square feet., and bounded on the :
**East by : Site No.183 'F', West by : Road, North by : Site No.184 'E', South by : Road.**

**C.K.V.K. LAW ASSOCIATES**
**Mr. VENKATESH CHANDRAN** M.A., L.L.B.
**Advocates & Legal Consultants**
Bangalore-43. M: 9845846428, 7204863700

**Zilla Panchayath Kolar**
**Office of the Executive Engineer,**
**Panchayath Raj Engineering Division, Kolar-563101**
**Ph: 08152-222570, e-Mail: eepredkolar1@gmail.com**

No: 24/2022-23 Date: 05.12.2022

**SHORT-TERM TENDER INVITING NOTICE**
**(Through e-Procurment SBD KW-IV)**

On behalf of the Governor of Karnataka as per KTPP Act 2000 item rate tenders were invited in standard bidding documents in the forms KW-IV through e-procurement from authorized PWD Dept Registered contractors in appropriate class for the works of Improvement to 13 No's village roads of Mulbagal constituency Kolar district, Indent No. : 95559. Approximate Amount put to Tender **Rs. 917.40 Lakhs.** EMD: **Rs.13.76 Lakhs** out of which **Rs.2.00 Lakhs** has to be paid though e-Portal. Remaining amount to be paid through bank garuntee which has to be uploaded in e-Portal. Time duration for completion of project including rainy season **11 Months.** The contractor's are requested for participate in e-Tender through GOK website: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** last date for submission of tender application and uploading tender forms through website from **dt: 12.12.2022 to 29.12.2022 up to 4.00 pm** and The pre-bid meeting is scheduled on: **12.12.2022 in the under signed office at 11.00 a.m.** Date of opening of technical bids in e-portal is on: **31.12.2022 at 11.30 AM.** For the eligible technically qualified contractors the date of opening of financial bids will be intimated seperately. The notification can be obtained from the e-procurement portal. Further details can be had from the above office on all working days during office working hours. And any quaries please contact E-Procurement helpline No's for tender clarification with respect uploading and downloading you can contact Ph No's: **91 8046010000 & +91 8022631200, 080-22230960 & 22234115.**

**Sd/- Executive Engineer, PRE Division, Kolar**

**DIPR/Kolar/R.O.No.409/MC&A/2022-23**

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**PERSONAL**

**CHANGE OF NAME**

**I, ADARSH** S/o No.819138-L NC(E), Hari Prasad P D, R/a No 10,11/1, Ground Floor, Hillside Meadows, Hesaraghatta Main Rd MS Palya, Vidyaranyapura P.O, Bangalore-97 have changed my name to Adarsh Hari Prasad vide affidavit dt: 03.12.2022 before Notary M.S.Satish, B'lore.

**I, KULDEEP** Kumar, R/o No-105 & 106, Lahari Nivas, Rainbow Garden Layout, Begihalli, Bengaluru Rural-560105 have changed my name to Kuldeep Kumar Bhosle vide affidavit dt: 07.12.2022 sworn before Notary Meera H, B'lore

**I, KULDEEP** Kumar Bhosle, R/o No-105 & 106, Lahari Nivas, Rainbow Garden Layout, Begihalli, Bengaluru Rural-560105 have changed my minor Daughter name from Aadhya to Aadhya Bhosle vide affidavit dt: 07.12.2022 sworn before Notary Meera H, B'lore

**I, KULDEEP** Kumar Bhosle, R/o No-105 & 106, Lahari Nivas, Rainbow Garden Layout, Begihalli, Bengaluru Rural-560105 have changed my minor Daughter name from Lahari to Lahari Bhosle vide affidavit dt: 07.12.2022 sworn before Notary Meera H, B'lore

**I, KULDEEP** Kumar Bhosle, R/o No-105 & 106, Lahari Nivas, Rainbow Garden Layout, Begihalli, Bengaluru Rural-560105 have changed my minor Son name from Pratyush Kuldeep Kumar Bhosle to Pratyush Bhosle vide affidavit dt: 07.12.2022 sworn before Notary Meera H, B'lore.

**I, (OLD** Name) Smitha Satheesh spouse of No.15301721F Ex Hav Satheesh Kumar.T residing at Chemmandayil House, Arakulam West, Post-Kodungallur, Thrissur (Dist), Kerala (State) Pin: 680664 have changed my name to (new name) Smitha.N.S vide Affidavit dated 05.12.2022 sworn before Notary B.V.Nagabhushana, Bangalore.

**PERSONAL**

**CHANGE OF NAME**

**I, YUVARAJ** Anandkumar, R/at No.197/2, M.G.R. Layout, White Field, Mahadevapura, Bangalore-560048, have changed my name from Yuvaraj Anandkumar to Yuvraj Reddy Anand Kumar vide affidavit dated 06-12-2022 before Notary Y.R.Chandrasekar, Bangalore.

**I, Mukesh** Bhagat, F/o Arnav, R/at SMQ 23/2, AF Station, Yelahanka, Bangalore-560063 have changed my son's name from Arnav to Arnav Pal vide affidavit dated 28/09/2022 before Notary S.R.Ravikumar, Bengaluru.

**I, Mukesh** Bhagat, F/o Aakanksha, R/at SMQ 23/2, AF Station, Yelahanka, Bangalore-560063 have changed my daughter's name from Aakanksha to Akanksha Pal vide affidavit dated 28/09/2022 before Notary S.R. Ravikumar, Bengaluru.

**I, Rattan** Singh Sarmal, S/o Bir Singh, R/at SMQ No.3601, AF Station, Yelahanka, Bangalore-560063, have changed my name from Rattan Singh Sarmal to Rattan Singh vide affidavit dated 06-12-2022 before Notary H.K. Gopalagowda, Bengaluru.

**I, Aneessa** Madan D/o Aban Madan, R/o: Wf 204 Sai Gardens Opp Hp Petrol Pump Kadugodi Belathur Kannamangala, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560067 have changed my name to Moxxie Maximus for all purposes in future.

**LOST & FOUND**

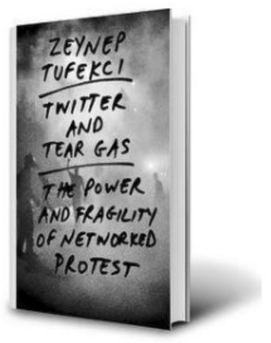
**I, ADIKSHITH** Ojha, have lost my Semester 2 and 3 Grade Cards (B170733EP) issued by NITC. If Found Please Contact: 8072600467.

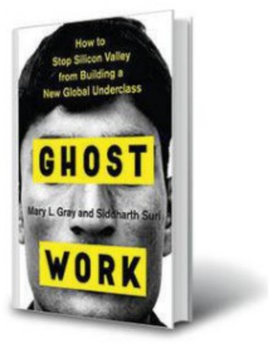
**THANKSGIVING**

**ST JUDE** Thanks for listening to my prayers. Please Bless always. Dilna

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GETTY IMAGES




# Writing on and of social media; how technology constructs and is constructed

Authors explore the economic cost and socio-political effect Big Tech and other digital intermediaries have on society but also point out that social media has become a necessary tool for engagement and communication

Joan Sony Cherian

"Everywhere you look, people are hooked on the things!", shouts Chris Gillhaney in the second episode of the fifth season of *Black Mirror*. This expression was part of a highly emotional, positively deranged rant by Chris (played by Andrew Scott) after he had just taken an intern of a popular social media platform hostage. As the episode unfolds, we realise that Chris's rage against social media is a result of despair from when he lost his girlfriend in a car crash as he was checking his phone after he got a notification alert from a social media site.

While the sci-fi anthology in itself is highly acclaimed, this episode had mixed reviews, with critics reviewing it as too simple a message about social media addiction, which takes on the all-too-often moral high ground of 'social media bad, go touch grass'.

However, Richard Seymour, author of *The Twittering Machine* would disagree with the critics. Social media addiction is real and we are all high.

**The attention economy**

*The Twittering Machine* talks about how social media organises our online presence; how it programmes it. As more and more people login (the network effect), the more data is generated through which large corporations now have a say in what topics are relevant, what style is fashionable, what lingo is acceptable and who our friends are. All of it funded by corporations, of course, who are selling their products in exchange for our data. This model of communication has given rise to "privately owned spaces which function as a new kind of public space". An arena where one needs constant attention through likes, shares and comments. Seymour elaborates how algorithms surveil our activity on these sites and suggest content we might not have known we liked or had an interest in. It can pick up behavioural patterns, giving voice to our unconscious desires. "We are writing, and as we write, we are being written," he grimly observes.

However, these platforms have enabled social change. Or have they? While Seymour has a more critical take towards the role of Twitter and Facebook when it comes to social movements, Zeynep Tufekci in *Twitter and Tear Gas - The Power and Fragility of Networked Protest* gives us an on-ground account of how exactly 'network' movements work, their strengths and the challenges. Being a participant and spectator of some of the first tech-driven social movements, she talks about how the internet and subsequently social media was used to navigate and spread protest.

**Seymour elaborates how algorithms surveil our activity on these sites and suggest content we might not have known we liked or had an interest in**

From the Zapatista movement of 1997 to the Arab Spring protests of 2011 and the #BlackLivesMatter, Tufekci elaborates on the constant tension between digitally fuelled movements and the actual real-life impact they sought but most often failed to make. She talks about how social media gave the layperson a chance to not only be politically active and have a voice, it also gave them the opportunity to be leaders. It took politics from politicians and gave it to the people. She talks about the Arab Spring protests in Egypt and how through a twitter hashtag, people would know and assemble for a protest or rally. It organised protests without the actual labour of political organising (campaigning, spreading awareness, having meetings).

However, due to the lack of leadership and fairly spontaneous nature of such protests, it was difficult to sustain momentum and find common ground.

Furthermore, if Seymour explains how social media constructs us, Tufekci writes about how technology itself is socially constructed. The prevailing social and political factors – the ruling regime and its ideology, the nature of the market, investors and advertisers, the extent of regulations – determine a technology's design.

**The labour behind Big Tech**

With the ubiquitous presence of social media and the ease of automation Big tech offers, it is easy enough to forget the very real human capital working behind the scenes making it all possible. It is often disruptive measures such as the recent mass-layoffs from Twitter, Meta and Amazon which remind us of the vast industry and economy of people behind our technological complex, making a living from it. A reported 11,000 people were laid off from Meta while Twitter fired around 7,500 people across the globe. Yet apart from the extremely qualified programmers, developers and engineers who run these platforms, a large underbelly of people serves Big Tech ensuring that it runs smoothly without glitches.

In *Ghost Work: How to Stop Silicon Valley from Building a New Global Underclass*, Mary. L. Gray and Siddharth Suri talk about the gig economy which sustains the technological infrastructure and our everyday interactions with it. The authors talk about how tech companies set up platforms to outsource menial tasks, which are ideally supposed to be taken care of by highly complex Artificial Intelligence tools and algorithms. These 'tasks', put up by various requesters (companies) include identifying whether an image on Facebook is pornographic or not or whether this tweet is meant as a joke or as an attempt to spread fake news. All these value judgements cannot be made by machines as they cannot differentiate tone and the context in which it was made. This blend of work where computation is mixed with human insight is called crowdsourcing or crowdwork.

It is often presented as tasks which need to be completed within second to minute timeframes on platforms such as Mturk, UHRS etc. Companies present this type of on-demand work as a utopia wherein you could work from the comfort of your home, whenever you want. It is presented as 'flexible' work as tasks are posted every second with compensation varying task to task. However, the work is mundane, competitive and precarious. You have to be ever-vigilant in order to get well-paid verified jobs as there is no guarantee that you will get paid. Despite its risky nature, a whole ecosystem of people makes their living off it. Completely dependent on the platforms, they are isolated with no helplines if tasks are not paid or if a system glitch messes with the software. The book tries to highlight the labour that is often invisible and unrecognised yet crucial to the smooth functioning of these platforms. It captures the tension "of the gig economy's odd mix of independence from a single employer to dependence on a web-based platform".

The economic model of Big tech platforms and social media intermediaries is further elaborated in *Platform Capitalism* by Nick Srnicek. The narrative method of the book helps us understand these platforms as purely economic evolutions to growing business needs. Its matter-of-fact tone describes how tech platforms were inevitable to the capitalist process thereby de-mystifying their existence as revolutionary inventions.

While these books outline the economic cost and socio-political effect digital intermediaries have on us and larger society, they also emphasise how social media has become a necessary tool for engagement and communication. How one navigates it keeping in mind the above makes all the difference.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

## According to WHO, the symptom onset of the first confirmed nCoV (later named COVID-19) case started on December 8, 2019, in China. A quiz on the pandemic that brought the world to a standstill

V. V. Ramanan

**QUESTION 1**
Why is February 11, 2020, important as far as the terminology for the virus goes?

**QUESTION 2**
The virus that causes this disease has been named SARS-CoV-2. What does SARS expand to?

**QUESTION 3**
What does 'corona' in coronavirus refer to?

**QUESTION 4**
Anosmia and Ageusia are two symptoms of COVID-19. What do they mean?

**QUESTION 5**
Which word that became synonymous with COVID-19 comes from the Italian for '40 days'?

**QUESTION 6**
In which Indian State was the first COVID-19 case reported and in which State did a death caused by the disease happen?

**QUESTION 7**
As per WHO, what is the minimum recommended distance to be maintained as part of 'social distancing'?

**QUESTION 8**
WHO has defined which two-word term as a 'process of identifying, assessing, and managing people who have been exposed to someone who has been infected with the COVID-19 virus'?

**QUESTION 9**
For what fundamental reason was antibiotics not considered a method to fight COVID-19?

**Visual question:**
Name this cruise ship that made headline news in the initial days of the pandemic for having a massive outbreak on board causing it to be quarantined. AP

**Questions (abridged) and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz:** 1. This insignia of the national emblem over a crossed baton and sabre in a lotus blossom wreath is for this rank in the armed forces. **Ans: Field marshal; Officers Sam Manekshaw and K.M. Cariappa hold this rank**
2. This is the tri-service theatre command of the Indian Armed Forces. **Ans: Andaman and Nicobar Command**
3. This PSU is the only company in India capable of manufacturing non-synthetic type welding electrodes. It is also the only producer of this element in India. **Ans: Mishra Dhatu Nigam Limited (MIDHANI); Titanium**
4. An attempted coup in this country was defeated by the intervention of the Indian armed forces in this operation in 1988. **Ans: Operation Cactus, The Maldives**
5. This was a flag flown by the President of India from 1950 to 1971. Each quadrant of the flag was occupied by these national symbols. **Ans: Presidential Standard of India; the Lion Capital of Ashoka, an Indian elephant, a weighing scale, a vase of the Indian lotus**
Visual: Identify this missile. **Ans: Agni**
**Early Birds:** S.S. Siva Shankar| Adya Upasana Routray| Pooja Roy| Vanshika Rana

FROM THE ARCHIVES

## *Know your English*

"Sir, I found the following in *The Hindu* of February 2, 1986. 'A *snafu* in the Reagan Administration led to an incorrect announcement...' What is the meaning of 'snafu' and what is a 'faux pas', sir?"

"Snafu means 'total confusion or commotion'. It is composed of the first letters of 'Situation Normal All Fouled Up'. Someone with a sense of humour must have coined this word. He must have considered total confusion a normal situation! The 'a' in the word is pronounced like the 'a' in 'man' and 'mat' and the 'u' like the 'oo' in 'fool'. The stress is on 'fu'. 'Faux pas' is a French expression which literally means 'a false step'. In English, it means 'an offence against social convention, any indiscreet action or speech'. 'Faux' is pronounced like the word 'foe' and 'pas' is pronounced 'pa'. The 'a' in 'pa' is pronounced like the 'a' in 'part'.

*He committed a faux pas when he referred to the Prime Minister as Mrs. Gandhi*."

"Mr. M. K. Venkataraman of Madras wants to know the pronunciation of 'rendezvous', sir."

"This is a word of French origin and is pronounced somewhat like the French word. The first 'e' in 'rendezvous' is pronounced like the 'o' in 'got', "gospel." The second 'e' is pronounced like the 'i' in 'bill'. The 'u' is pronounced like the 'oo' in fool. 'Rendezvous' is pronounced 'randivoo'. The 'z' and 's' in the word are silent. The stress is on the first syllable. In French 'rendez-vous' means 'present yourselves'. 'Rendezvous' in English means 'a place where people meet often', 'the place chosen for meeting'.

*Let the library be our rendezvous.*
*This hotel is a rendezvous for the writers in this city.*
*Let us agree on a suitable rendezvous.*

The pre-arranged meeting of two or more spacecrafts is also called a 'rendezvous'."

"Mr. P. Sridhar of Kolar Gold Fields wants to to know the difference between 'advice' and 'advise', sir."

"'Advice' is used as a noun and 'advise' as a verb.

*You must follow his advice.*
*You must act on his advice.*
*I gave him a piece of advice last week.*
Advice is freely given but rarely taken.
*I advised him to take the test.*
*He has been advised complete rest.*
*He advised me not to go there.*

The word 'adviser' is spelt with an 's'. It is also spelt 'advisor'. There is a difference in pronunciation between 'advice' and 'advise'. The 'c' in 'advice' is pronounced 's'. The 's' in advise, advised, advisor, adviser, advisable and advisory is pronounced 'z'. It is advisable to stop here."

"Thank you, sir. Goodbye."
"Goodbye."

## Word of the day

**Belie:**
be in contradiction with; represent falsely

Synonyms: negate, contradict, misrepresent

Usage: *His soft-spoken attitude belies his short temper*

Pronunciation: bit.ly/beliepro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /bɪˈlʌɪ/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

**Timings**
**BENGALURU**

| | |
|---|---|
| **THURSDAY, DEC. 08** | |
| RISE 06:30 | SET 17:53 |
| RISE 18:02 | SET 06:27 |
| **FRIDAY, DEC. 09** | |
| RISE 06:30 | SET 17:54 |
| RISE 18:52 | SET 07:21 |
| **SATURDAY, DEC. 10** | |
| RISE 06:31 | SET 17:54 |
| RISE 19:44 | SET 08:13 |

| Bengaluru Weather | max | min |
|---|---|---|
| Tumakuru | 29 | 21 |
| Mysuru | 29 | 19 |
| Bengaluru | 28 | 18 |

**Bengaluru Today**
**26°C** The weather will be mostly dry. Morning will be slight cool with mist and haze. Day will be comfortable. Night will be slight cool.

**Bengaluru Tomorrow**
**23°C** A pleasant and gusty winds to prevaill. Night will be cool. Few spells of moderate rain and thundershower to occur.

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THE HINDU
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## BWSSB chief gets award

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

The Indian Institute of Materials Management (IIMM) conferred the best CEO of 2022 award on N. Jayaram, chairman, Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board. It was bestowed on him for his outstanding achievement contribution to the materials management profession.

He received the award at NATCOM 2022 organised by IIMM in Chennai on December 3.

# HC rejects objection to felling trees for metro project on airport road, ORR

### Court takes note of the admitted fact that project is behind schedule

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

Observing that there is no justifiable reason for opposing felling of trees for various stages of metro project, the High Court of Karnataka on Wednesday permitted the Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation to go ahead with the felling and translocation of trees as approved by the Technical Expert Committee and continue the afforestation activities as per the norm.

Pointing out that "admittedly the rail project is behind the time schedule", the court also noted that the activity of afforestation and translocation was carried out under the supervision of tree officer and the activity of afforestation is still going on, and they may not be with the fast pace expected by the petitioner.

A Division Bench comprising Chief Justice Prasanna B. Varale and Justice Ashok S. Kinagi passed the order while hearing a PIL petition. The court specifically allowed the BMRCL to execute the permission granted by the tree officer, based on the approval of the TEC, to fell 466 trees,

The metro rail work on Ballari Road in Bengaluru. FILE PHOTO

**The Bench adjourned further hearing on PIL petition till Jan. 10**

translocation 21 trees, and retain four trees on Kempapura to Shettigere stretch on the phase-2B of metro line to Kempegowda International Airport.

Similarly, the Bench allowed the BMRCL to execute the permission granted for felling 114 trees, to translocate 12 trees and to retain 3 trees on Central Silk Board to Kodineesanahalli metro station stretch of Outer Ring Road phase-2A of metro project.

Counsel for petitioners, Dattatreya Devore and Bangalore Environmental Trust, objected to felling trees while alleging that there is inordinate delay in carrying out afforestation activities to compensate removal of trees for the project.

After going through the reports of the TEC on assessment of trees before it considered BMRCL's applications for removal of trees, the Bench said that it found no justifiable reason for the opposition raised by the petitioners.

The Bench adjourned further hearing on the PIL petition till January 10, 2023 while directing the BMRCL to file status report on the activities on felling, translocation of trees, and afforestation activities.

## Four arrested, 27 mobiles recovered

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

The City Market police on Wednesday arrested four persons and recovered 27 mobile phones worth ₹9 lakh from them.

The accused, Rajashekhar, 27, and his associates, Kiran, 28, Shoukath Ali, 28, and Balram, 38, are from Bhadravati.

They used to come to the city and move around in crowded areas to look out for gullible people to steal mobile phones.

The police have taken the accused into custody.

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# State plans to have board of governors in government engineering colleges

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

**It is proposed to nominate 10 to 15 subject experts to the Board, once the proposal is approved**

Following the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) model, the State government is planning to institute board of governors (BoG) in government engineering colleges in the State. It is proposed to nominate 10 to 15 subject experts to the Board, once the proposal is approved, from the next academic year.

Presently, University Visvesvaraya College of Engineering (UVCE), Bengaluru has a BoG.

During an interaction with the press on Wednesday, Higher Education Minister C.N. Ashwath Narayan said, "The BoG will be packed with experts from industries, corporate sector, alumni, and academia, and we believe this will increase the quality of technical education".

The 'Karnataka State Public Higher Education Institutions Bill-2022' that will replace the Karnataka State Universities Act is likely to be placed before the upcoming Legislature session, which will be held in Belagavi from December 19. The Higher Education Minister met the officials of the Law Department on Tuesday to discuss the Bill.

The Minister admitted technical glitches in the Unified University College Management System (UUCMS) and he said that there were some teething problems and assured that they will be resolved soon. "By introducing UUCMS, the government has not taken away the autonomy of the universities. UUCMS has indeed helped the universities to conduct exams and announce results on time. Some universities have implemented it 100% and some will take a few more months."

Following the launch of an indefinite strike by research scholars at Kannada University, Hampi, over non-payment of fellowship from Sunday, the State government has released funds.

Rashmi Mahesh, Principal Secretary for Higher Education said: "The government has released around ₹4 crore fellowship amount for the research scholars of Kannada University, Hampi. Due to the shortage of funds, there was a delay in fellowship amount being released. The University will release the amount to the students shortly," she said.

Govt of Karnataka
**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD DIVISION KALABURAGI**
No: EE/PWD/KD/TS-2/Tender Notification/2022-23/6663 Date: 06-12-2022
**SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION**
1) Name of Work: Executive Engineer PWD Division Invites tender for the (05) Works under KKRDB for indent No 157095. 159874. 159875. 159873. 156749. 2) Estimate cost: **Min Rs 260.00 Lakhs Max Rs. 375.22 Lakhs**, 3) Eligibility of Contractor: Class II, & above, 4) EMD Amount : Min Rs. 3.31 Lakh Max Rs.4.77 Lakh, 5) Pre bid Meeting: **19.12.2022 (11.00 Hrs)**, 6) Last date for queries : **20.12.2022 (17.30 Hrs)**, 7) Last date for Submission of bid: **21.12.2022 (16.00 Hrs)**, 8) Date of Opening of Technical Bid : **22.12.2022 (16.30 Hrs)**, 9) Date of opening of Financial Bid : **26.12.2022 (11.30 Hrs)**, 10) Enquiries : Office of the Executive Engineer PWD Division Kalaburagi, 11) Note: GST Will be Paid Separately, 12) Website: **www.e-proc.Karnatak.gov.in**
**Sd/- Executive Engineer**
**PWD Division Kalaburagi**
DIP/Kalaburagi/929/MC&A/2022-23

**ತೋಟಗಾರಿಕೆ ಇಲಾಖೆ**
ಪ್ರೋಜೆಕ್ಟ್ ಆಫೀಸರ್, ನಿಖರ ಬೇಸಾಯ ತರಬೇತಿ ಉತ್ಕೃಷ್ಟ ಕೇಂದ್ರ, ಮದ್ದೂರು – 571428
Mail- coemadhur@gmail.com, Cell No: 9845800165
ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:ಪ್ರೋ.ಆ(ತೋಉನಿ)/ಮ/ಸತೋಅ/2022–23/01 ದಿನಾಂಕ:03.12.2022
**ಇ– ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ**
ಪ್ರೋಜೆಕ್ಟ್ ಆಫೀಸರ್ ನಿಖರ ಬೇಸಾಯ ತರಬೇತಿ ಉತ್ಕೃಷ್ಟ ಕೇಂದ್ರ, ಮದ್ದೂರು ರವರು ಮದ್ದೂರು ತೋಟಗಾರಿಕೆ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಕರೆದಿದ್ದು, ಕೆ.ಟಿ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ ಕಾಯ್ದೆಯ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ದ್ವಿಲಕೋಟೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಅನುದಾನದ ಲಭ್ಯತೆಯ ಮೇರೆಗೆ ಕಾರ್ಯಾದೇಶ ನೀಡಲಾಗುವುದು.
**ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ** 1 **ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ :** ಪ್ರೋ.ಆ(ತೋಉನಿ)/ಮ/ಸತೋಅ/2022–23/1 **ವಿವರ :** ವಿವಿಧ ವಾಣಿಜ್ಯ ರಸಗೊಬ್ಬರ ಸಾಮರ್ಥ್ಯದ ಸೂಕ್ಷ್ಮಪೋಷಕಾಂಶಗಳಾದ ಬಾಳೆ, ತರಕಾರಿ, ನಿಂಬೆ, ಅರಿಶಿಣ, ಶುಂಠಿ ಮತ್ತು ಕಾಳುಮೆಣಸು ಸೂಕ್ಷ್ಮಪೋಷಕಾಂಶಗಳನ್ನು ಸರಬರಾಜು ಮಾಡುವುದು **ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ.ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)** : 100.00 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು **ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ.ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)** : 2 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು, **ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಪಡೆಯಲು ಪ್ರಾರಂಭದ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ** : Online, **ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ** : 09.12.2022 ಸಂಜೆ 4.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ.
ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ ಕೆಳಸಹಿದಾರರನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸುವುದು : 9845800165/9483493004
**ಸಹಿ/– ಪ್ರೋಜೆಕ್ಟ್ ಆಫೀಸರ್ (ತೋಉನಿ) ನಿಖರ ಬೇಸಾಯ ತರಬೇತಿ ಉತ್ಕೃಷ್ಟ ಕೇಂದ್ರ, ಮದ್ದೂರು. ಮದ್ದೂರು ತೋಟಗಾರಿಕೆ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರ, ಮಂಡ್ಯ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ**
ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ಸಸಿ–ಮಂ/ಎಂಃಎ/512/2022–23

विज्ञापन सं. इसरो मु.:आर.एम.टी.:01:2022 दिनांक 08.12.2022
Advt No. ISRO HQ:RMT:01:2022 dated 08.12.2022
भारत सरकार, अंतरिक्ष विभाग
**Government of India, Department of Space**
भारतीय अंतरिक्ष अनुसंधान संगठन (इसरो), मुख्यालय, बेंगलुरु
**INDIAN SPACE RESEARCH ORGANISATION [ISRO] HEADQUARTERS, BENGALURU**
**सहायक (राजभाषा) के भर्ती/ RECRUITMENT OF ASSISTANT (RAJBHASHA)**
कर्नाटक और नई दिल्ली स्थित विभिन्न केंद्रों / यूनिटों में सहायक (राजभाषा) के पद के लिए प्रतिभावान अभ्यर्थियों से निम्नानुसार आवेदन आमंत्रित किए जाते हैं। Applications are invited from meritorious candidates for the post of Assistant (Rajbhasha) for filling up in various Centres / Units located in Karnataka & New Delhi, as detailed below:

| पद सं Post No. | पद का नाम Name of the Post | कुल रिक्तियों की संख्या Total number of vacancies | आरक्षण स्थिति Reservation Status |
|---|---|---|---|
| पद सं./ Post No. 1 | सहायक (राजभाषा)/ Assistant (Rajbhasha) | 04 [एच.एस.एफ.सी., बेंगलूरु / HSFC, Bengaluru – 01; इसरो मु., बेंगलूरु / ISRO HQ, Bengaluru- 02; एम.सी.एफ.,हासन / MCF, Hassan – 01] | अना./UR – 2; अ.पि.व/OBC-1; अ.जा./SC –1 |
| पद सं./ Post No. 2 | सहायक (राजभाषा)/ Assistant (Rajbhasha) | 03 [अं.वि., बेंगलूरु / DOS, Bengaluru – 02; अं.वि., नई दिल्ली / DOS, New Delhi – 01] | अना./UR – 2; अ.पि.व/OBC-1; |

अना.-अनारक्षित/UR-Unreserved; अ.पि.व.-अन्य पिछड़ा वर्ग/ OBC- Other Backward Class; अ.जा.-अनुसूचित जाति / SC- Scheduled Caste
2. विस्तृत चयन प्रक्रिया एवं आवेदन के लिए, इसरो की वेबसाइट **www.isro.gov.in** देखें। आवेदन प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि 28.12.2022 है। For detailed Selection Procedure and for applying, please visit ISRO website at **www.isro.gov.in.** Last date for receipt of application is 28.12.2022.

**ODISHA JOINT ENTRANCE EXAMINATION - 2022 (OJEE - 2022)**
**No: OJEE / 599** **Date: 07.12.2022**
**NOTICE FOR OJEE COUNSELLING FOR ADMISSION IN BAMS/BHMS COURSES, 2022-23**
The Counselling and Admission Process for BAMS/ BHMS courses for the 2022-23 session of all the Govt. and Private Ayurvedic and Homoeopathic Colleges of Odisha will **start from 08-12-2022** through web-counselling. Candidates interested for admission to BAMS/BHMS must have qualified in NEET-UG - 2022. Only natives of Odisha are eligible for all State Quota seats. All Odisha and out-side Odisha State students are eligible for the All India Quota seats in Private colleges only.
For more information and other details, please visit OJEE website **(www.ojee.nic.in)**.
Sd/-
Chairman, OJEE
h-16 OIPR-14020/11/0027/2223

**Raichur Institute of Medical Sciences, Raichur**
**(Govt. Autonomous Institution)**
**Hyderabad Road, Raichur -584102**
**Phone /Fax-08532-238488/89 Web. www. rims-raichur.com**
**Email info@rims-raichur.com**
No.RIMS/SUP(RGSSH)/TEND/2022-23/CALL-2 Dated: 05.12.2022
**RE -TENDER NOTIFICATION**
Tenders are invited from eligible bidders for supply of Various Drgus, Surgicals & Miscellaneous, Dialysis Reagents and Various Cental Lab Items to Rajiv Gandhi Superspeciality (OPEC) Hospital, RIMS, Raichur under two cover bid system through E-Procurement Portal of Government of Karnataka.

| Sl No | Particulars | Tender No | Estimated Cost (In Lakhs) |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Supply of Various Injections & Tablets to RGSSH(OPEC), Raichur | RIMS/SUP/TEND/INJ-TAB/93(1)/22-23/Call-2 | 9.02 |
| 2 | Supply of Various Surgical & Miscellaneous Items RGSSH (OPEC), Raichur | RIMS/SUP/TEND/SUR/94(1)/22-23/CALL-2 | 50.01 |
| 3 | Supply of Various Dialysis Reagents & Other Items to RGSSH(OPEC), Raichur | RIMS/SUP/TEND/DIA-CHEM /95-1/22-23/Call2 | 16.74 |
| 4 | Supply of Various Central Lab Items to RGSSH (OPEC), Raichur | RIMS/SUP(RGSSH)/TEND/LAB/96/22-23 / CALL2 | 26.79 |

1) Tender document may be downloaded from E-procurement portal of the Govt. of Karnataka from 06.12.2022, 2) Last Date for Queries on or before 12.12.2022 @ 05.00 PM, 3) Tender must be submitted online through E-procurement portal on or before 20.12.2022 upto 5.00 PM & 4) Technical bid will be opened on 22.12.2022 at 11.30 A.M.
Further information may be obtained from above office and from www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in and also from this Institution web site www.rims-raichur.com
**Sd/- Director**
DIP/Raichur/457/MC&A/2022-23 **Raichur Institute of Medical Sciences Raichur**

**Executive Engineer B.T.D.A,**
**Dn No.2, Bagalkot**
**No:EE/BTDA/Dn.2/Tender-10/2022-23/3141 Dated:07.12.2022**
**SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION**
**(Through e-Procurement only)**
Tenders are invited by the under signed for various works from registered eligible contractors for various 28 no's of works ranging from Rs. **4.00** Lakhs to Rs. **472.93** Lakhs The intending bidders for work details may login to e-procurement website **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** for detailed notification and submission of the tender. The tenders can be submitted till **22.12.2022** up to **5.00** PM. Technical bids will be opened on **23.12.2022** at **05.05** AM (if possible) and Financial bid will be opened on **26.12.2022** at **11.00 AM** (if possible). Any other details can be obtained from this office in person or over telephone number **08534-297054.**
**Sd/- Executive Engineer,**
**BTDA, Division No.02 Bagalkote,**
DIPR/BGK/556/2022-23/DESHPANDEPUBLICITY

**GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA**
**Public Works Department**
**Executive Engineer PWD Division Chikkodi**
**No/PWD/CKD DIV/AE-3/TENDER/2022-23/5483 DATE: 05/12/2022**
**Short Term E-Tender Notification**
Executive Engineer PWD Division Chikkodi has invited item wise short term e-Tenders from Eligible registered contractors for the works coming under the jurisdiction of Chikodi PWD Division 7 works under head of account 8443-Deposit Contribution (Vivek Yojane), Amount put to tender is Minimum of Rs. 60.08 Lakhs and Maximum of Rs. 82.92 Lakhs.
Calendar of events :1)Last date for queries & clarifications : 12-12-2022 up to 5.30 PM, 2)Last Date of Receipt of Bids : 14-12-2022 up to 5.00 PM, 3)Date of opening of Technical bids (Two Cover System): 16-12-2022 at 4.30 PM, 4)Date of opening of Financial bids (Two Cover System): "after approval of Technical bids"
For more information & forms of tender can be downloaded from www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in & departmental web site www.kpwd.gov.in. Further details can be collected from O/o Executive Engineer Public Works Dept.,Division Chikkodi during working hours.
**Sd/-Executive Engineer**
DIPR/BGM/RO-NO-1335/MCA/2022-23 **PWD Division Chikkodi.**

**KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED**
**(CIN : U40109KA1999SGC025521)**
No. CEE/TZM/SEE (O)/AEE-4/2022-23/9629-30 Date: 05.12.2022
**TENDER NOTIFICATION (THROUGH E-PROCUREMENT PORTAL ONLY)**
KPTCL invites bids against **Bid Enquiry No.:** KPTCL/CEE/TZM/SEE(O)/AEE-4/11kV UG Cable/2022-23/348 for "Design, Manufacture, Testing and Supply of 11kV UG Cables of sizes 1Cx1000 Sq.mm 3CX240 Sq.mm & 3CX95 Sq.mm required for various Sub-Stations coming under Transmission Zone, Mysuru conforming to technical specifications, F.O.R.D at store / site basis, including insurance, transportation and unloading". The bids will be received through electronic tendering mode only. The detailed notification regarding subject enquiry in the e-Procurement process can be obtained by logging on to KPTCL website: **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** on hyper link e-Procurement or to **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in on or after 08.12.2022.** Any other details can be had from the office of the undersigned.
**Sd/- Chief Engineer, Electy.,**
Transmission Zone, KPTCL, Prasarana Bhavana, FTS Compound, N.R. Mohalla, Mysuru-570 007. Ph: 0821-2455770 / 2457275

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RNI No. KARENG/1970/49945 • ISSN 0971 - 751X

## INBRIEF

### Congress leaders displaying 'rowdy' behaviour: BJP

Launching a counter-attack at the Opposition Congress that has accused it of trying to include a rowdy into the party fold, the BJP not only posed 17 questions to Congress leaders Siddaramaiah and D.K. Shivakumar, but has also remarked that their response to specific developments were similar to "rowdyism".

In a release, BJP State general secretary and MLC Ravikumar wondered if the manner in which Mr. Shivakumar had declared that he would not allow the BJP to hold any programmes when some people had torn the Congress banner was part of rowdyism culture. Similarly, the manner in which Mr. Siddaramaiah had said that he would take the fire to the entire State when his car was attacked in Kodagu was nothing but a display of rowdyism, he said. He also alleged that the behaviour of the Youth Congress president, who earlier allegedly was involved in a brawl, had also displayed rowdyism.

### CM inaugurates free eye hospital in Tumakuru

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Wednesday called upon the medical fraternity to formulate health schemes that will ensure affordable treatment to the poor. Speaking after inaugurating Narayana Devalaya, a cash-counter free eye hospital at Shettyhalli in Tumakuru district, he lauded the efforts of K. Bhujang Shetty, chairman and managing director of Narayana Nethralaya, in setting up the hospital. The Chief Minister said the government has formulated a scheme for eye treatment and will distribute free eye glasses for those requiring it after testing. This scheme will be launched in January, he said.

# Staff under pension scheme to raise political heat in election year

Exit from NPS not possible and can become a populist decision, say government sources

**Sharath S. Srivatsa**
BENGALURU

The State government, which recently announced the 7th pay commission for its employees, is staring at another challenge on its salary and pension policy. Employees under the National Pension Scheme (NPS) are planning to turn the tables on political parties by linking their demand for scrapping NPS to the 2023 Assembly polls.

Coming close on the heels of Punjab, Chattisgarh, Jharkhand, and Rajasthan governments withdrawing from the NPS and reverting to the old pension scheme (OPS), nearly 2.2 lakh government employees along with an estimated similar number in the allied government services in Karnataka coming under the NPS are also demanding the same.

The employees are firing their salvo with each one planning to tweet the number of votes he/she has in their family and friends circle that they can influence. "We will list the number of votes in my family and friends circles with names and make a

Currently, the expenditure on salary and pension constitutes about ₹65,000 crore of a total ₹1.91 lakh crore revenue expenditure. FILE PHOTO

poster out of it. We will tweet it leaders of political parties challenging the parties to support our cause," Shantharam, president of Karnataka Government NPS Employees Association, told *The Hindu*.

According to him, the NPS has already lost its original character as several changes have been made since its launch, and that it should not take the State much to revert to OPS. "There is about ₹16,000 crore in the corpus that could be claimed once Karnataka exits from NPS and the money could be utilised for development," Mr. Shantharam said.

Since November 22, the employees have launched the "Vote for NPS" movement in which NPS employees and their family members are meeting their local MLAs and stating that their vote will be for those in support of abolishing NPS. Earlier, in October/November, they had launched OPS Sankalpa Yatra across 30 districts, and on December 19, when the State llegislature meets in the winter session at Belagavi, a huge gathering has been planned in Bengaluru.

Currently, the committed expenditure on salary and pension constitutes about ₹65,000 crore of a total ₹1.91 lakh crore revenue expenditure, which amounts to about 35%. The government believes it is only going to put additional burden on the exchequer if the State returns to OPS.

While the employees demand has been there for more than five years now, the State has repeatedly toed its line not to revert. Officials also point out that since 2018 the NPS has also been reformed to increase government's contribution to the corpus from 10% to 14% (employee contribution is 10%), introduced family pension, retirement, and death benefits among others after it set up a committee headed by the Additional Chief Secretary.

"The government has officially stated that it is not going to withdraw from NPS. It is also not possible to exit from NPS since Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority that maintains the corpus has clarified on the matter to Rajasthan government already. The corpus accrued will also be not accessible to the governments. The employees can only withdraw a part of the corpus," a senior government official stated.

"Finally, it is a political decision that has to be made. Decisions of the other Sstates are mostly populist keeping an eye on the elections. It could become chaotic if one government reverts it and another government wants to return to NPS again."

While NPS was launched by the NDA government headed by the late Atal Behari Vajapayee, the governments that have gone out of NPS are ruled by Opposition States. It is unlikely that the BJP government in Karnataka will head out of NPS, sources said.

# Congress to hold convention of SCs, STs in Chitradurga on January 8

**'It aims at galvanising Dalit party workers and leaders and reassuring them that Cong. was with them'**

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

To counter the BJP government's decision to increase reservation for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) in an election year, the Opposition Congress on Wednesday announced an unity convention of these communities in Chitradurga on January 8, 2023, in an attempt to mobilise the SC/ST communities.

The convention will be attended by AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge and one of the members of the former Congress president Sonia Gandhi's family.

Along with party's leaders, former KPCC president and MLA G. Parameshwara addressed a press conference and said the convention aimed at galvanising Dalit party workers and leaders and to reassure them that the Congress was with them. The leaders have not ruled out demanding that a Dalit be made the Chief Minister if the party is voted to power.

Dalit leaders K.H. Muniyappa, H.C. Mahadevappa, Satish Jarkiholi, and V.S. Ugrappa attended the meet. The party wants to turn the convention titled "Aikyate Samavesha" (unity convention) as a show of strength for its organisation and show of unity among its Dalit leaders. Dalit leaders in the Congress are concerned as factions backing KPCC chief D.K. Shivakumar and Leader of the Opposition Siddaramaiah are projecting their own leaders as the next chief ministerial face of the party.

On projecting a Dalit leader as the CM, Mr. Parameshwara said: "we are a national party and we will certainly place our demand before the high command at an appropriate time".

He said the saffron party was falsely claiming credit for enhancing the SC/ST reservation quota.

Mr. Parameshwara asked the Dalit leaders not to succumb to gimmicks of the BJP and said it was the Congress government led by Mr. Siddaramaiah that had enacted a law mandating an allocation of 24.1% of the total Budget for welfare of the SCs/STs. The BJP government, which was in power for the last three years, violated the law by not allocating 24.1% of the budgetary outlay for SCs and STs, he alleged.

# Sugarcane farmers to burn govt. order on ₹50 hike in procurement price

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

In protest against the government's attitude towards farmers, the protesting sugarcane farmers, whose dharna here entered 16th day, have decided to burn the State government's order that increased sugarcane procurement price by ₹50 on Thursday.

In a statement on Wednesday, Sugarcane Farmers Association president Kurubur Shanthkumar said they had decided to burn the order copy as a symbol of protest. "We are not seeking alms. The ₹50 hike given is like alms to farmers. It has to be calculated judiciously and should be given in a proper manner. Only a few factories are distributing profits from by-products to farmers and are also paying higher than the fair and remunerative price (FRP). Why cannot all factories do it?" he asked.

Sugarcane farmers have been staging dharna for the last 16 days at Freedom Park in Bengaluru. FILE PHOTO

His response came after State government announced ₹50 per tonne on the profits from by-products of sugarcane. This is above the FRP given to the farmers. While farmers at a meeting recently with Sugar Minister Shankar Patil Munenakoppa had not agreed to the proposal, the government had announced it. A section of farmers had also met Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Tuesday to thank him.

"Instead, the State government should prevail upon the sugar factories to reduce the transport price that has been increased from ₹250 to ₹300 per tonne. The government should also make effort to get farmers the FRP of ₹3,050 per tonne fixed by the Union government since sugar factories are paying less," Mr. Shanthkumar said. He further said that farmers were being cheated by sugar factories with respect to the calculation of yield.

# Happy to be called 'Siddramullah Khan', says Congress leader

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

After C.T. Ravi, BJP general secretary and MLA, took a jibe at Congress leader and former Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and called him "Siddramullah Khan", the Leader of the Opposition lashed out at the ruling party and said that the BJP can only go to polls with such communal claims.

He said that being addressed with a Muslim name was a reward for him. In a series of tweets on Wednesday, Mr. Siddaramaiah asked: "Are they going to Assembly elections with zero achievements, corruption, iniquities, and full of hate?"

Siddaramaiah

Mr. Siddaramaiah said that he is a man who believes in secularism and he takes such jibes as a gift. "I don't mind adding a Muslim name to my name and being called Siddramullah Khan. We have the heritage of Shishunala Sharif, disciple of Govinda Bhatt and poet Kabir, disciple of Saint Ramananda. So, they rewarded my belief in secularism by attaching a Muslim name to my name," Mr. Siddaramaiah said. He said BJP leader Jagadish Shettar wrote the foreword and released a book on Tipu Sultan appreciating his fight against the British rulers.

Meanwhile, in a response to Mr. Ravi's comments, the KPCC named Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai as "Bommayullah Khan".

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

OBITUARY

01.07.1926 – 05.12.2022

PANDA LALITHAMBA

Wife of Late Sri. P. Punnaiah

We in Beardsell Limited, express profound grief on the sad demise of our promoter member. May her soul rest in peace at the heavenly abode.

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

In Loving Memory

MR. M.I. JACOB
Addl. Secy to Govt. of TN (Retd.)
DOB: 16.01.1934 - DOD: 08.12.2018
Love you Dad... Thank you for teaching us through our life.
Sumana, Sanjay, Sunil
Ph.: 9962773633

6th Anniversary Remembrance

A. SAVARIRAJAN
(alias) MUTHAPPA
M.A., B.L., PGDLA., DLL
(Retd. Joint Secretary, Tamilnadu Secretariat)
21st Mar 1952 - 8th Dec 2016
Your life was a blessing, your memory a treasure... you are loved beyond words and missed beyond measure.
With love
Kowsalya, Anto, Jenny & Ana
Jesudasan, Vidhya, Jadon & Jessica
Mob.: 98844 04988, 98668 04141

IN MEMORY OF YOUR LOVED ONES

To dedicate a space in this section, Please contact:
Bengaluru: 98455 29981, 080 - 22071826
Hubballi: 0836 - 2338600
Mangaluru: 0824 - 2417575, from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Rate for Karnataka:
Minimum: Rs. 320/- for 2 lines.
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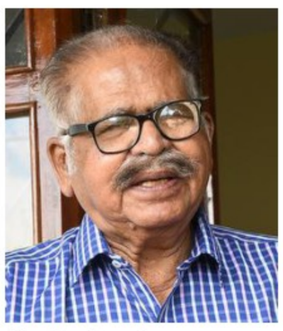
DONATE EYES GIFT SIGHT

A BG-BGE

# Prominent artist, writer Manohar Devadoss no more

**The Hindu Bureau**
CHENNAI


Manohar Devadoss

**Manohar Devadoss and his wife brought out over 33,000 greeting cards with his illustrations every year**

Renowned artist and writer Manohar Devadoss died at his Santhome residence in Chennai early on Wednesday. He was 85, and is survived by a daughter, who lives in the United States.

Architect Sujatha Shankar of INTACH, who knew Mano, as he was fondly called by his friends, since the 1980s, said she had met him as recently as on Tuesday evening, and he had been happy and cheerful at that time.

Mr. Devadoss has written several books and illustrated them. In 1982, he started writing his book, *Green Well Years,* about his childhood in Madurai. It took him over a decade to write the book and complete the artwork.

He then brought out *From an Artist's Perspective* and *Multiple Facets of my Madurai*.

*A Poem to Courage, Dreams, Seasons and Promises* and *Mahe and Mano: Challenges, Resilience and Triumphs* are works about his life with his wife, Mahema. His last book, *Madras Inked: Impressions of an Artist and an Architect*, was co-authored by Sujatha Shankar.

**Intricate ink drawings**

His intricate ink drawings of buildings and scenes in Chennai and Madurai are treasured by those who have them.

Historian V. Sriram said Mr. Devadoss had been battling an irreversible, degenerative eye condition (Retinitis pigmentosa) since his 30s, and had worked as a chemical engineer in a company for as long as his eyesight permitted him. His wife met with an accident in 1972, and was paralysed from below the neck. For 30 years, Mr. Devadoss looked after her, until she passed away (in 2008). He eventually lost his eyesight completely.

A Padma Shri awardee, Mr. Devadoss hailed from Madurai and loved that city as much as he did Chennai.

He and his wife brought out over 33,000 greeting cards with his illustrations every year, with the sale proceeds going to charity.

The funeral is expected to be held on Friday, according to sources close to Mr. Devadoss.

# ISRO inks MoU with Social Alpha to establish SpIN

It is India's first dedicated platform for innovation, curation, and venture development for the burgeoning space entrepreneurial ecosystem

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

The partnership is a step forward in providing further stimulus to India's recent space reform policies, says ISRO.

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has signed an MoU with Social Alpha, a multistage innovation curation and venture development platform for science and technology start-ups, to launch Space-Tech Innovation Network (SpIN).

SpIN is India's first dedicated platform for innovation, curation, and venture development for the burgeoning space entrepreneurial ecosystem.

The space agency said that the tie-up is a one-of-a-kind public-private collaboration for start-ups and SMEs in the space industry.

"This novel partnership is a significant step forward in providing further stimulus to India's recent space reform policies and will work towards identifying and unleashing the market potential of the most promising space tech innovators and entrepreneurs in India," the space agency said.

"Space applications cut across various domains from earth to sky. Innovative technologies are expected to bring a paradigm shift in utilising the space applications to maximise the economic, social, and environmental benefits for the larger society. I wish the SPIN platform would create a level playing field for various stakeholders to collaborate and contribute to the space ecosystem in the country," said S. Somanath, Chairman, ISRO.

Manoj Kumar, Founder, Social Alpha said, "At Social Alpha, we have stayed committed to our goal of bringing breakthrough innovations to the social sector with applications across climate, health, and livelihoods, and this partnership with ISRO will significantly strengthen our ability to create impact."

In line with the partnership announcement, SpIN has launched its first innovation challenge. Early-stage start-ups for developing solutions in areas of maritime and land transportation, urbanisation, mapping, and surveying, disaster management, food security, sustainable agriculture, environmental monitoring, and natural resources management, among others are encouraged to apply.

The selected start-ups and innovators will be able to access both Social Alpha's and ISRO's infrastructure and resources as per the prevailing guidelines.

Applications are open from December 6, 2022, to February 6, 2023.

# NCP seeks Shah's intervention in Maharashtra-Karnataka dispute

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

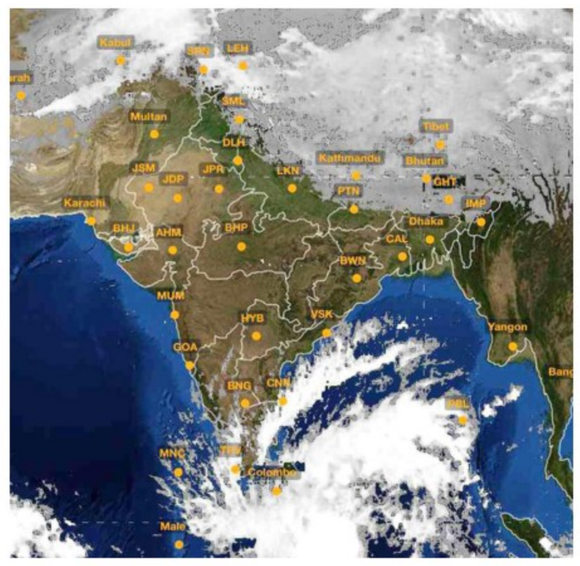
The tensions between the Maharashtra and the Karnataka government over issues related to State boundaries rang out in the Lok Sabha on Wednesday, with Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) MP Supriya Sule criticising Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai and urging Union Home Minister Amit Shah to intervene, with "BJP-led governments in both States".

"For the past 10 days, a new issue has cropped up in Maharashtra. The Chief Minister of our neighbouring State Karnataka has been speaking nonsense. Yesterday, people of Maharashtra wanted to go to the Karnataka but they were thrashed," Ms. Sule said in the Lok Sabha.

She alleged that a "conspiracy against Maharashtra is going on for the past 10 days. Karnataka Chief Minister is speaking about disintegrating Maharashtra. Both States are ruled by the BJP. People of Maharashtra were beaten up yesterday. This can't be allowed. This is one country. I urge Amit Shah to speak up." Shivakumar Udasi, BJP MP from Haveri (Karnataka), objected to Ms. Sule's remark, saying the matter was *subjudice*. Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla interjected after this and said that the matter was a sensitive issue between two States. Thereafter, NCP members staged a walkout from the House in protest.

## WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday




TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

**Forecast for Thursday:** Heavy to very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over coastal Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Karaikal and heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over south coastal Andhra Pradesh and Rayalaseema

| CITY | RAIN | MAX | MIN | CITY | RAIN | MAX | MIN |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Agartala | — | 28.9 | 14.2 | Kozhikode | — | 33.4 | 24.4 |
| Ahmedabad | — | 30.0 | 17.5 | Kurnool | — | 32.2 | 17.6 |
| Aizawl | — | — | 11.9 | Lucknow | — | 25.1 | 11.0 |
| Allahabad | — | 25.9 | 9.7 | Madurai | — | 30.0 | 23.5 |
| Bengaluru | — | 27.6 | 17.8 | Mangaluru | — | 30.8 | 22.9 |
| Bhopal | — | — | 13.6 | Mumbai | — | 32.8 | 22.6 |
| Bhubaneswar | — | 26.6 | 15.0 | Mysuru | — | 30.7 | 19.5 |
| Chandigarh | — | 24.8 | 9.7 | New Delhi | — | 24.4 | 9.6 |
| Chennai | — | 29.1 | 24.0 | Patna | — | 24.8 | 11.6 |
| Coimbatore | — | 29.2 | 20.4 | Port Blair | 39 | 27.8 | 23.7 |
| Dehradun | — | 25.2 | 8.0 | Puducherry | — | 28.0 | 21.8 |
| Gangtok | — | 16.6 | 8.4 | Pune | — | 30.6 | 16.4 |
| Goa | — | 32.0 | 19.7 | Raipur | — | 27.6 | 15.0 |
| Guwahati | — | 28.7 | 15.4 | Ranchi | — | 24.2 | 10.6 |
| Hubballi | — | 31.0 | 16.0 | Shillong | — | 19.1 | 8.0 |
| Hyderabad | — | 28.8 | 16.9 | Shimla | — | 15.6 | 6.7 |
| Imphal | — | 26.5 | 10.5 | Srinagar | — | 10.7 | -3.0 |
| Jaipur | — | 25.7 | 10.6 | Thiruvananthapuram | — | 30.6 | 23.5 |
| Kochi | — | 30.0 | 24.4 | Tiruchi | — | 28.5 | 23.4 |
| Kohima | — | 21.6 | 8.2 | Vijayawada | — | 30.4 | 19.2 |
| Kolkata | — | 27.6 | 16.5 | Visakhapatnam | — | 28.9 | 21.6 |

*(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)*

**Pollutants in the air you are breathing**

| CITIES | $SO_2$ | $NO_2$ | CO | PM2.5 | PM10 | CODE |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ahmedabad | .12 | ..72 | 46 | ..... 52 | ....78 | |
| Bengaluru | .14 | ..18 | 36 | ... 192 | ...108 | |
| Chennai | .26 | ..64 | 41 | ... 322 | ...185 | |
| Delhi | .16 | ..35 | 44 | ... 359 | ...299 | |
| Hyderabad | ...8 | ..48 | 38 | ... 216 | .....— | |
| Kolkata | .26 | ..25 | 41 | ... 308 | ...212 | |
| Lucknow | .20 | ..46 | 37 | ... 259 | ...200 | |
| Mumbai | .79 | 160 | 48 | ... 375 | ...267 | |
| Pune | .27 | ..45 | 35 | ... 157 | ...114 | |
| Visakhapatnam | .33 | ..46 | 48 | ... 216 | ...149 | |

**Yesterday**

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Begusarai, Bihar recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 402 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Aizawl, Mizoram recorded a healthy AQI score of 23

**Air Quality Code:** Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

**$SO_2$:** Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

**$NO_2$:** Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

**CO:** Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

**PM2.5 & PM10:** Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
**EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, MINOR IRRIGATION AND GROUND WATER DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, DIVISION DHARWAD**

**SECTION 1: INVITATION FOR TENDERS (IFT) (One & Two Cover System) Kw-1&4**

Reg : This office tender Notification No. 38/2022-23 Dated: 06/12/2022

The Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation and Ground Water Development Division, Dharwad, invites tenders for total of **02** Works for **Dharwad** Sub Divisions, comes under this undersigned office in Standard Bid Document **KW-1&4** through e-procurement portal of the Government of Karnataka, viz., **http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** from eligible contractors for the work under Head of Account: **4702-APB (Total of 01 work); Bayaluseeme-(Total of 01 main work);** Estimate Maximum Estimate Amount: Rs. **410.78** Lakhs, Maximum E.M.D amount Rs. **6.17;** Lakhs and Minimum Estimate Amount: Rs. **9.85;** Minimum E.M.D amount Rs. **0.25 Lakhs** Period of downloading tender documents from e-procurement portal is from **07/12/2022** to **22/12/2022** upto17:30hrs. And any other Corrigendum/Addendum and Postponement of Notification, Changes in the dates, if any will be published only through **http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in.** Other details may be obtained from the office of the undersigned during office hours on all working days. Details published on the e-procurement website @ **http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** are final.

**Sd/- Executive Engineer**
**M.I. & G. W. D. Division, Dharwad**
DIPR/DWD/MCA/828/2022-23

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE REAL ESTATE REGULATORY AUTHORITY, AT BANGALORE**
**CMP NO.220408 / 0009331**
**MR. BHASKAR BAKTHAVATSALU**
**....COMPLAINANT**
**V/S**
**MANTRI DEVELOPERS PRIVATE LIMITED**
**...RESPONDENT**

**TO : THE RESPONDENT**
**MANTRI DEVELOPERS PRIVATE LIMITED,**
Office at "Mantri House" #41,
Vittal Mallya Road, Bangalore - 560001.

**NOTICE TO THE RESPONDENT**

The Complainant has filed a Complaint before the Real Estate Regulatory Authority, at Bangalore, for cancellation of the Sale agreement and construction agreement, both dated 23-08-2016 and refund of an aggregate sum of Rs.1,08,47,226/- together with interest. The Complainant has initially booked a flat on 30-05-2016 bearing Unit No.A-1603 on the 16th floor in building -A, measuring 4490 Square feet in Mantri Centrium Project.

Notice is hereby given to you to appear before the Real Estate Regulatory Authority either in person or through an Advocate duly instructed or through some one authorized by law, to act for you in the above proceedings **on 10-01-2023 at 3.00 PM** in case you intend to contest the Complaint. If you fail to appear, the same will be dealt with, heard and decided in your absence.

Issued under my hand and the seal of the Karnataka Real Estate Regulatory Authority, Bangalore **on this 29th November 2022.**

**By Order of the Authority**
**Karnataka Real Estate Regulatory Authority Bangalore.**

**Advocate for Complainant**
**Dhananjay Joshi Associates,**
18 / 4, Saleh Centre Annexe,
Cunningham Road, Bangalore - 560001.
Tel: 080 - 22200220, admin@dja.co.in.

**Karnataka Veterinary, Animal & Fisheries Sciences University**
P.B. No. 6, Nandinagar, Bidar-585 226, Karnataka

No. R/PG-Admn/Ntfn/2022-23 Date: 7-12-2022

**PG ADMISSION NOTIFICATION 2022-23**

The eligible candidates for PG admission to the Master's and Doctoral degree programs at the constituent colleges of the University for the Academic year **2022-23** are invited to submit their application online as on the last date prescribed. The dead line for uploading the online application is **26-12-2022.**

For details of various Masters' and Doctoral programs offered at **KVAFSU, Bidar** Application fees, Mode of payment and calendar of Events with respect to Admission please visit **www.kvafsu.edu.in**

**BY ORDER,**
**Sd/-**
**(S.Sivasankar, IFS)**
**Registrar**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

This is to inform the general public that our client Mr. Srinath R is the absolute owner of the Schedule property and original Sale Deed dated 23/07/2004 bearing No.KRI-1-11366/2004-05 and registered at the office of the Sub-Registrar K.R.Puram, executed by Krishnamma in favour of erstwhile owner Rajesh Jain in respect of the immovable property described in the Schedule hereunder is lost from our client while shifting his house, and our client had filed a complaint in respect of this to Bengaluru City police Unit immediately after coming to his knowledge.

Any person/s having found the same may kindly be returned to the undersigned within 14 days from the date of this publication and if any person misusing the original one shall be prosecuted and if anyone entering into any transaction without our client's knowledge with any third party our client shall not be responsible for the same.

**SCHEDULE PROPERTY**

Property bearing Site No. 29, CMC Mahadevapura Khata No.111/A, Property No.44, situated at Chinnappanahalli Village, K.R. Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, measuring East to West 40 Feet and North to South 30 feet totally measuring 1200 Sq. feet and bounded on the;

**East :** 20 Feet Road, **West :** Site No.37, **North :** Road, **South :** Site No.30.

Sd/- **Akhila & Associates, Advocates**
#121, LRDE Layout Doddanekkundi,
Marathahalli, Bangalore-560037.
**Phone: 9741300393**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**KARNATAKA REAL ESTATE REGULATORY AUTHORITY**
1/14, 2nd Floor, Silver Jubilee Block, Unity Building backside, CSI Compound, 3rd Cross, Mission Road, Bengaluru-560027

Hilife Ventures have applied for transfer of its rights of the project Hilife Horizon to Frontier Shelters Private Limited and now they have filed an application to withdraw the RERA registration.

It is hereby notified to the general public that with reference to RERA No. PRM/KA/RERA/1251/446/PR/190724/002722, the project Hilife Horizon, situated at No. 12/1, Seegehalli Village, KR Puram Hobli, Ward No.53, Bengaluru Urban to inform RERA, if any have became an allottee / paid advance amount / booking amount to the Frontier Shelters Private Limited.

**By order of Authority, Registrar, Karnataka Real Estate Regulatory Authority, Bengaluru**

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE REAL ESTATE REGULATORY AUTHORITY, AT BANGALORE**
**CMP NO.220408 / 0009331**
**MR. SHAHED HASSAN KHALEEL**
**....COMPLAINANT**
**V/S**
**MANTRI DEVELOPERS PRIVATE LIMITED**
**...RESPONDENT**

**TO : THE RESPONDENT**
**MANTRI DEVELOPERS PRIVATE LIMITED,**
Office at "Mantri House" #41,
Vittal Mallya Road, Bangalore - 560001.

**NOTICE TO THE RESPONDENT**

The Complainant has filed a Complaint before the Real Estate Regulatory Authority, at Bangalore, for cancellation of the Sale agreement and construction agreement, both dated 02-07-2016 and refund of an aggregate sum of Rs.5,94,09,054/- together with interest. The Complainant has initially booked a flat on 30-05-2016 bearing Unit No.B-1101 on the 11th floor in building -B, measuring 4490 Square feet in Mantri Centrium Project.

Notice is hereby given to you to appear before the Real Estate Regulatory Authority either in person or through an Advocate duly instructed or through some one authorized by law, to act for you in the above proceedings **on 10-01-2023 at 3.00 PM** in case you intend to contest the Complaint. If you fail to appear, the same will be dealt with, heard and decided in your absence.

Issued under my hand and the seal of the Karnataka Real Estate Regulatory Authority, Bangalore **on this 29th November 2022.**

**By Order of the Authority**
**Karnataka Real Estate Regulatory Authority Bangalore.**

**Advocate for Complainant**
**Dhananjay Joshi Associates,**
18 / 4, Saleh Centre Annexe,
Cunningham Road, Bangalore - 560001.
Tel: 080 - 22200220, admin@dja.co.in.

**KRISHNA BHAGYA JALA NIGAM LIMITED**
**(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)**
**Office of the Executive Engineer, KBJNL,**
**MLI Division No-2 Babaleshwar- 586 113.**
**Phone:08355-200020**
**E-mail ID: eemli2babaleshwar@gmail.com**

No:KBJNL/MLID-2/PB-4/Stage-III/MBC-23122/2022-23/1409
Date:06.12.2022

**SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION -3rd Call**
**(Through e-Procurement only)**

Ref: 1) This office tender Notification No: 1201 Dated: 28.10.2022
2) This office tender Notification No: 1330 Dated: 18.11.2022

In continuation of tender notification at above references, short term tender is invited 3rd call for the Work of "Construction of Distributary network under Managuli Branch Canal from Km 0.00 to 32.160 for Providing Irrigation facilities to 18426.00 Ha under Mulwad LIS Stage-III **[Indent No-23122-Call3]"** for **Rs.25447.91 Lakhs on percentage basis** from registered KPWD Class-I Contractors with pre qualification criteria. The Joint Venture / Consortium is allowed in this tender subject to conditions stipulated in Bid Document.

**Issue and submission of E-tender documents**

1] The contractor can have access to e-tender document from **07.12.2022to 17.12.2022** up to 5.00 PM.

2] A pre-bid meetingwill be held on **13.12.2022** at 12.45 PM at the office of the Chief Engineer, KBJNL Dam Zone Almatti Tq: B.Bagewadi Dist: Vijayapur. The bidders shall submit their queries if any for clarifications on or before **13.12.2022**upto11.00AM positively through following e-mail: eemli2babaleshwar@gmail.com / cedam_almatti@yahoo.co.in. 3] Cover-I (Technical bid) will be opened in the office of the Executive Engineer KBJNL MLI Division No.2 Babaleshwar **on 19.12.2022at 11.00 AM.**

**Further information about electronic tendering can be had from http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in or www.kbjnl.karnataka.gov.in and can be had from the undersigned during office hours.**

**Sd/- Executive Engineer,**
**KBJNL, MLI Division-2, Babaleshwar**
ಪಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ವಿಜಯಪುರ/642/ಎಂಸಿಎ/2022–23

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
**ZILLA PANCHAYAT BIDAR.**
**DIST HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE OFFICE BIDAR.**
Phone: 08482-233126/27. Fax: 08482-233127. E-mail: dhobidar@gmail.com

No: Sup/KKRDB/CR- 93/2022-23. Date:07.12.2022

**-: SHORTTERM TENDER NOTIFICATION :-**

Tender is invited by District Health and Family Welfare Officer Bidar Under Hydrabad Karnataka Regional Development Board, Micro Plan and its Subordinate health institutions for the year 2022-23 for the supply of Ambulances on Two cover system through e-procurement portal. EMD of the tender amount is 2.5%. each tender The e-procurement web site address is www.https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in can be seen on or after 07.12.2022 . Last Date of Submission of Tender on 24.12.2022 up to 5:00 pm and Tender opening Date(Technical Bid) on 26.12.2022 at 5.30 pm. Venue of opening the Tender District Health and Family Welfare Office, Opp: Prayavi Hospital, Bidar. The details as follows.

| SL. NO | Instute Name | File Number | Amount In Lakhs | Reg. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Supply, Installation and Commissioning of BLS Ambulance REQUIRED TO THE Hallikhed(k) UNDER KKRDB FOR THE YEAR -2022-23. | DHO/ KKRDB/CR-01/2022-23 | 19.00 | |
| 2. | Supply, Installation and Commissioning of BLS Ambulance REQUIRED TO THE JANAWADA & CHILLARGI Villages UNDER KKRDB FOR THE YEAR -2022-23. | DHO/ KKRDB/CR-02/2022-23 | 38.50 | |
| 3. | Providing Ambulance Services to the Health Institutions of Aurad Taluka, Torna, Hedgapur,Dabaka, Aurad(B). and Mini Ambulance to PHC Thanakushnoor UNDER KKRDB FOR THE YEAR -2022-23. | DHO/ KKRDB/CR-04/2022-23 | 90.00 | |

The right of rejecting the Tender without assigning any reason vests with District Health and Family Welfare Officer Bidar.

More details can be obtained during the office hours.

**Sd/- District Health and Family Welfare Officer Bidar**
DIPR/Bidar/359/MC&A/2022-23

Govt. of Karnataka
**Office of the Secretary,**
**Sri Malai Mahadeswara Swamy Kshethra Development Authority**
Mahadeswara Hills, Hanur Taluk, Chamarajanagar District.
Telephone No. : 08225-272128 / Fax : 272123 Email : sec.mmtemple@gmail.com

**No.S.M.M.K.D.A/8/PR/70/2022-23** **Dated : 28-11-2022**

**E-TENDER NOTIFICATION**

The Secretary Sri Malai Mahadeswara Swamy Kshethra Development Authority, M.M. Hills Invites E-Tender for **PROVIDING SUPPLYING, ERECTION AND COMMISSIONING OF 2 STOP 20 PASSANGER LIFT TO LAADU MANE AT M.M. HILLS** subject to the following conditions in accordance with Karnataka Transparency in Public procurement rules 1999-2000 & as per standard tender documents for procurement of services. For further details please refer website https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in Sub title Hindu Religious Institutions and Charitable Endowment (hrice), Malai Mahadeswara Temple Chamarajanagara Dt. Help line 08225-272128 & mobile No. 9449715824/948360998 (Mr. Basavaraju/M Selvaganapathi). The below mention E.M.D. amount should be pay through E-procurement.

| Sl no | Details | Approximate Estimate Cost (Rs. Lakhs) | E.M.D. Amount (Rs. Lakhs) |
|---|---|---|---|
| 01 | PROVIDING SUPPLYING ERECTION AND COMMISSIONING OF 2 STOP 20 PASSANGER LIFT TO LAADU MANE AT M.M. HILLS HANUR TALUK CHAMARAJANAGAR DISTRICT. | 37.00 | 92,500.00 |

The Details and Calendar of events are as follows :

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | E-Tender Documents will be effective | 29-11-2022 | Afterwards |
| 2. | Tender enquiry up to | 14-12-2022 | 4.00 pm |
| 3 | Last Date & Time for Receipt of E-Tender | 16-12-2022 | 4.00 pm |
| 4. | Date & Time of Opening Financial Bid | 18-12-2022 | 4.00 pm |

**Sd/- Secretary,**
**Sri Malai Mahadeswara Swamy Kshethra Development Authority, Mahadeswara Hills**
**DIPR : CHANAGAR:451:2022-23**

## All hands on deck

### The BJP is adding organisational muscle to its ideological clarity

A two-day meeting in Delhi organised by the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) for its national office bearers, functionaries in charge of States and various frontal organisations, and presidents and general secretaries in charge of the organisation in States is being seen as a stock-taking exercise by the party. The Lok Sabha elections are more than a year away but the BJP is anxious to remain battle-ready, always keeping itself busy on the ideological and organisational fronts, and dominating at the macro and micro levels. The meet was to motivate functionaries to stay in tune with the messaging from the top. It resolved to keep the political focus intact on the constituency of welfare recipients, or *labharthis* in the BJP's parlance, while campaigns around new themes, particularly India's G-20 presidency, will be added. There was no ideological track in the deliberations that were sharply focused on organisational capacity. The BJP may never have felt as secure as it is today about the public acceptance of its Hindutva ideology. The inauguration of the Ram Temple in Ayodhya, now scheduled for December 2023, will be the prelude to the 2024 campaign anyway.

Despite occupying a position of strength, the BJP continues to be minutely attentive to organisational matters. Its electoral fortunes are primarily driven by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's personal popularity, but its micro management of voter mobilisation is critical too. The BJP does not let its organisational machine rust or rest, and keeps it in a constant state of mobilisation. This week's meeting decided to enhance the party's emotional connect with the voters at the family level. BJP workers are being encouraged to deepen their links with voters. This approach appears to be a finetuning of the party's storied booth management capacity. The party will be facing some crucial Assembly elections in 2023 – in Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh, where it is in power, and in Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh, which it wants to wrest back. Indications are that J.P. Nadda, whose term as president ends in January, will remain in charge in the run-up to the 2024 Lok Sabha election. The BJP's capacity to plan ahead and buttress its ideological agenda with a strong organisational muscle is what sets the party apart from its challengers. Mr. Modi, and Home Minister Amit Shah remain constantly engaged with party matters. The BJP has effectively synergised its actions in government and at the party level to give itself the optimal thrust. While this has led to legitimate complaints of a misuse of power, what its opponents could learn from the BJP is the importance of backing ideological clarity with organisational muscle.

## Extreme measure

### Not every instance of sharing false news requires arrest and remand

A political party's spokesman has been arrested for sharing an apparently false claim about the expenditure involved in Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Morbi in Gujarat, in November, in the aftermath of the collapse of a bridge that caused nearly 140 deaths. Even if the claim that a fabulous sum of money was spent on preparations and the renovation of facilities for the visit was false, the arrest of Saket Gokhale, spokesman of the All India Trinamool Congress, is in striking contrast to the fact that the promoters and executives of the company, whose negligence could have caused the recently renovated bridge to collapse, have not been detained so far. It is difficult not to highlight the irony involved, as the penal sections invoked against Mr. Gokhale for the offence of forgery attract prison terms of two to three years only; whereas the acts of commission and omission that led to such a high fatality figure are punishable with prison terms ranging from 10 years to life. Nothing but an intention to teach a lesson to an Opposition political activist can explain the arrest of Mr. Gokhale when he could, instead, have been summoned for an inquiry. It is one of those cases in which arrest is obviously avoidable, even if the government of the day is seriously aggrieved by the purported falsehood in the claim that he shared on Twitter.

That police custody was sought and obtained in a case in which not much is needed to be investigated or unearthed – except perhaps the provenance of the purported Right to Information reply that contained the false claim – is quite strikingly indicative of vendetta. Another aspect, which is taking place with disturbing frequency, is the fact that the Gujarat police went to Jaipur in time to detain Mr. Gokhale and bring him to Ahmedabad. It is disconcerting that provisions relating to the inter-State operation of criminal law allow anyone to be held by the police from another State with ease, especially when the arrest is required by a State in which the Bharatiya Janata Party is the ruling party. It is not clear if the jurisdiction police were informed about the impending arrest. The dissemination of fake news is indeed a formidable problem in times when social media are a major source of information. That those with a significant following on these platforms should exercise due care before sharing information they receive is also not in doubt. However, it is questionable whether every instance of the dissemination of possibly false information should lead to arrest, unless grave consequences are likely to arise. An official fact-check and a legal takedown may well meet the ends of justice.

# The perils of undoing the framework of reservation

**Kalaiyarasan A.**

is an Assistant Professor at the Madras Institute of Development Studies (MIDS), India, and a Research Affiliate at South Asia Institute, Harvard University

Early last month, the Supreme Court of India upheld the 103rd Constitutional Amendment Act, which had introduced 10% reservation for the economically weaker sections (EWS). The EWS quota and the Court judgment that followed have shifted the discussion on the legacy of affirmative action based on caste in India.

With this judgment, there seems to be an emergent consensus for a social policy framed on the universal basis of deprivation stemming from economic backwardness. The last two decades of jobless growth and increased economic insecurity have added credence to such demand. However, delegitimising caste as a basis for policy is a monumental mistake with real consequences, given the deepening of wealth inequality on caste lines.

**Welfare entitlement and the realities**

The new consensus, ostensibly rooted in universalism, comes with a claim that every individual, regardless of caste and ethnicity, should get her due in welfare entitlement. While the claim is understandable, it needs to be scrutinised with ground realities. The collective disadvantage experienced by certain groups is unique to each of them, and their specific deprivations require specific resolutions. Contemporary inequalities are not produced in one's lifetime. The group-based differences in economic and social outcome are not due to differential ambition, ability, and effort. They are inheritances. These inherited inequalities – economic, cultural and social capital – are passed on to successive generations. One such site of intergenerational inequality is wealth. Caste mediates transfers of wealth over generations in India. The latest survey, the All India Debt & Investment Survey (AIDIS-2019) released in 2021 shows the trend of deepening caste inequality in wealth in India. AIDIS collects information on physical assets such as land, livestock, buildings, agricultural machinery, and transport equipment, as well as financial assets such as shares, deposits and amount receivable by the household. Wealth is a better measure of economic status than income and consumption. Wealth is a stock variable that takes time to change while income/consumption is a flow variable that alters frequently.

Inequality is broadly found to have risen in India between 1990 and 2020, particularly in the early 2000s. Such a rise has been varied based on the dimension and method one adopts. This is more severe in the case of wealth, followed by income and consumption inequality. The gini index of wealth inequality has gone up from 0.62 in 1992, 0.63 in 2002 and 0.67 in 2012 to 0.68 in 2019. Contrast this with the available consumption figure of 0.37 or income which stands 0.54 in 2012 and you get a better picture.

> The substitution of caste by economic criteria will not only reverse the modest gains made in affirmative action so far but also deepen structural inequality

The average per capita of wealth among the upper castes was ₹8,03,977 in 2019 as against ₹4,09,792 for OBCs, ₹2,28,388 for Dalits and ₹2,32,349 for tribals. In other words, on average, the upper castes own wealth more than three times of Dalits and twice that of OBCs. They control about 45% of the total wealth in the country followed by OBCs holding 40%, Dalits 10% and Adivasis 5%. The upper castes not only own a larger share of wealth but are also disproportionately concentrated in the top quintile. About 55% wealth in the top quintile is controlled by the upper castes followed by 36% for OBCs, 5% for SCs and 3% for tribals. Contrary to popular perception, it is not income or saving behaviours of individuals that have generated alarming wealth inequality, but it is a product of the long history of institutional exclusion of certain caste groups.

The source of the wealth gap is historical and inherited. If we disaggregate wealth, land and building constitute a large part of it – 60% and 22%. respectively, followed by 7% of financial assets. These two components – land and buildings – are largely inherited. The land inequality in particular has a longer history going all the way back to the British colonial era. Colonial intervention which assigned land ownership to some castes at the expense of others continued in post-colonial India. India's truncated land reform did not alter this legacy. The real estate boom post the 1990s further helped those owning land and buildings consolidate their wealth, thanks to increased land value due to speculation. The ratio of private wealth to national income increased from 290% in 1980 to 555% in 2020, estimated to be the fastest increase in the world by the World Inequality Report 2022. This is not surprising as India has zero taxation of wealth and inheritance.

How do we then craft our public policy in this context of such deepening wealth inequality? Can caste-neutral policy arrest this wealth gap? Those who argue for caste-blind policy seem to inadvertently rationalise this inequality. Caste-neutral policies cannot address the historical legacies of inequalities.. They are insufficient to arrest the magnitude of the caste gap in wealth. It is unfortunate that reservations became the singular policy instrument to address caste-based inequality in India. Despite modest achievements in improving access to education, jobs and enhanced earnings, it failed to address structural inequalities.

The caste wealth gap is not just a product of differences in education, jobs, and income but rather an inequality passed from one generation to the next. Hence, an improvement in education and access to jobs alone will not arrest this gap. Undoing the existing framework of reservation – by substituting caste by economic criteria – will not only reverse the modest gains made so far but also deepen structural inequality.

**Global experience**

Anxieties over loss of social and cultural status among the middle classes are gaining ground in many countries particularly where some form of affirmative action is in place. In the United States, for instance, the gains brought about by affirmative action for Black Americans received 'White backlash' or 'White rage'; similar has been the anti-reservation vitriol that culminated in introducing the EWS quota in India. Notwithstanding the differences in histories of caste and race, both continue to be durable institutions of inequality. While the legacies of these institutions are incommensurable to each other, the call for colour-blind policies has striking similarities with the debate on caste-neutral policy making in India. More recently, with Donald Trump coming to power, the U.S. has attempted to put a hold on affirmative action. The new government led by Joe Biden has not altered such reversals either.

The degree of inequality in any society is a political choice. Focusing on the past two centuries, Thomas Piketty argues "history of the distribution of wealth has always been deeply political, and it cannot be reduced to purely economic mechanisms". A just society requires creating a level-playing field, altering the enduring legacy of inherited wealth and caste that block opportunities and life choices.

# BIMSTEC as key to a new South Asian regional order

**Prabhash Ranjan**

is Professor and Vice Dean, Jindal Global Law School, O.P. Jindal Global University

December 8 is commemorated as SAARC Charter Day. It was on this day, 37 years ago, that the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), an intergovernmental organisation, was established by Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka to promote economic growth in South Asia. Afghanistan acceded to SAARC later. However, SAARC has failed abjectly in accomplishing most of its objectives. South Asia continues to be an extremely poor and least integrated region in the world. The intraregional trade and investment in South Asia are very low when compared to other regions such as the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) and Sub-Saharan Africa.

Pakistan has adopted an obstructionist attitude within SAARC by repeatedly blocking several vital initiatives such as the motor vehicles agreement, aimed at bolstering regional connectivity. Deepening hostility between India and Pakistan has made matters worse. Since 2014, no SAARC summit has taken place leaving the organisation rudderless, and practically dead.

**Significance of regionalism**

But why bother about SAARC? Because South Asia, that is India's neighbourhood, is important for India's national interests. This is best captured in the current government's 'neighbourhood first' policy. SAARC is the only intergovernmental organisation with a pan-South Asia reach. India can judiciously employ it to serve its interests in the entire region. But India, in the last few years, has been looking at SAARC through the lens of Pakistan. Consequently, the deterioration in India-Pakistan relations has coincided with the incapacitation of SAARC, much to the delight of Pakistan. A weakened SAARC also means heightened instability in other promising regional institutions such as the South Asian University (SAU), which is critical to buttressing India's soft power in the region.

> Reviving SAARC in the current scenario is too idealistic, so the next best scenario is to look at other regional instruments such as BIMSTEC

A new narrative is that in South Asia, India can successfully use the instrument of bilateralism over regionalism to pursue its interests. While bilateralism is undoubtedly important, it can at best complement, not substitute, regional or multilateral efforts. Regionalism has brought immense success in other parts such as East Asia and Africa. Looking at ASEAN's spectacular success in regional integration, international lawyers Julien Chaisse and Pasha L. Hsieh have developed the concept of a new regional economic order – a process through which developing countries search for a trade-development model, based on incrementalism and flexibility; this is different from the neoliberal model laid down by the Washington Consensus. Regionalism can deliver prosperity in the South Asian region too, especially because multilateralism is weakening.

**The BIMSTEC promise**

Since South Asia cannot repudiate regionalism, reviving SAARC by infusing political energy into it and updating its dated Charter will be an ideal way forward. However, in the current scenario, this is too idealistic. So, the next best scenario is to look at other regional instruments such as the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral, Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC), an intergovernmental organisation established in 1997. BIMSTEC comprises five South Asian nations (Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, India and Sri Lanka) and two ASEAN countries (Myanmar and Thailand). Importantly, Pakistan is not a BIMSTEC member. In recent years, India seems to have moved its diplomatic energy away from SAARC to BIMSTEC. This resulted in BIMSTEC, after 25 years, finally adopting its Charter earlier this year. The BIMSTEC Charter is significantly better than the SAARC Charter. For instance, unlike the SAARC Charter, Article 6 of the BIMSTEC Charter talks about the 'Admission of new members' to the group. This paves the way for the admission of countries such as the Maldives.

Notwithstanding the improvements, the BIMSTEC Charter, to boost economic integration, does not contain the flexible participation scheme of the kind present in the ASEAN Charter. This flexible scheme, also known as the 'ASEAN Minus X' formula, allows two or more ASEAN members to initiate negotiations for economic commitments. Thus, no country enjoys veto power to thwart economic integration between willing countries. Given the experience of SAARC, where Pakistan routinely vetoes several regional integration initiatives, it is surprising that BIMSTEC does not contain such a flexible participation scheme. A flexible 'BIMSTEC Minus X' formula might have allowed India and Bangladesh or India and Thailand to conduct their ongoing bilateral free trade agreement (FTA) negotiations under the broader BIMSTEC umbrella. This would have eventually strengthened BIMSTEC by enabling the gradual and incremental expansion of these binding commitments to other members. India should press for this amendment in the BIMSTEC Charter.

**Some steps to take**

BIMSTEC should not end up as another SAARC. For this, its member countries should raise the stakes. A high-quality FTA offering deep economic integration – something that Prime Minister Narendra Modi also advocated at the last BIMSTEC ministerial meeting – would be an ideal step. Likewise, India should explore legal ways to move successful SAARC institutions such as SAU to BIMSTEC. These steps will give stronger roots to BIMSTEC and enable erecting a new South Asian regional order based on incrementalism and flexibility, ushering in prosperity and peace in the region.

*The views expressed are personal*

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**Growth forecast**

The reports on India's growth projection by the World Bank, at 6.9% (Page 1, December 7), and the Fitch rating, of 6.2% ('Business' page, December 7) have left the common man even more confused than ever, wondering what the underlying factors that determined the forecasts could be. More clarity is needed on the macro-economic factors that were taken into account and the method used in arriving at the figures. There cannot be so much of a variation in the projections. The Government's clarification is essential as its growth figure is on the higher side. It should not be a case of "Lies, damned lies, and statistics".

**A.V. Narayanan,**
Tiruchi, Tamil Nadu

**Case backlog**

That courts across the country are flooded with cases — a "pendency of five crore" — is alarming. The existing judicial system needs to be reviewed. The tendency to approach the courts over trivial issues and administrative matters should be curtailed. A court exists to dispense early justice to the aggrieved and not to enrich lawyers by prolonging cases by limitless adjournments. The Government also needs to cooperate with the judiciary in filling up the vacancies of judges.

**Manoharan Muthuswamy,**
Chennai

**Abuse, exaggeration**

As the jury chairman of the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) in Goa, Nadav Lapid was within his rights and responsibility to express his reading of the films exhibited in the festival. *Kashmir Files* was not an exception to be treated as a holy cow. It is beyond comprehension why and how his criticism was taken to be abuse to the host country. His words were less than sophisticated but the Israel Ambassador equating *Kashmir Files* with Spielberg's *Schindler's List* took the cake in exaggeration.

**Ayyasseri Raveendranath,**
Aranmula, Kerala

**Reforestation needed**

Studies have shown that beginning with the last decade, about five million hectares of trees have been cut down every year in India, contributing to extreme niche loss and a drop in the quantum of biodiversity. Every species, including humans relies on trees to survive. We have to carry out a massive reforestation exercise to combat the challenge of climate change and the rapid-fire decline of biodiversity. Even creating wildlife corridors through the connection of old growth trees will help. Tracts must be rehabilitated by returning indigenous tree species to them.

**Vijaykumar H.K.,**
Raichur, Karnataka

**Corrections & Clarifications**

In the photograph carried with the report "Court frames charges against Minister's son in Lakhimpur Kheri case" (some early editions, December 7, 2022), a wrong person is shown as Ashish Mishra. The person wearing a black shirt in the background is Ashish Mishra.

The Readers' Editor's office can be contacted by Telephone: +91-44-28418297/28576300; E-mail:readerseditor@thehindu.co.in

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address.

# Need for an effective tourist police

**M.P. Nathanael**

is Inspector General of Police (Retd.), CRPF

Crimes against tourists and other foreign nationals appear to be on the rise in India. Consider several recent cases, and the lessons they suggest. A few days ago, a Kerala session court sentenced two men to life imprisonment for the rape and murder of a Latvian tourist in 2018. A 12-year-old Russian girl was raped in a hotel in Goa on April 6 this year. The rapist was an employee of the hotel in which the girl was staying with her mother.

An Iraqi couple staying at a hotel in Gurugram for the treatment of the husband in the Medanta hospital was accosted by two miscreants posing as policemen on October 23. They accused the couple of carrying drugs and on the pretext of checking their wallets, fled with $15,000 the couple had saved for the treatment.

On September 2, a British woman lawyer lodged a complaint of sexual misconduct against a cab driver who was ferrying her from the airport to her hotel in South Delhi. The incident traumatised her to the extent that she left for the U.K. within two days of her arrival.

These are just a few incidents of foreigners falling victim to crimes in our country. Women are more prone to sexual attacks by criminals on the prowl in tourist destinations. For every crime committed against foreigners, there would be several others that go unreported for multifarious reasons, with one of them being the fear instilled in them by the threats of these criminals. In the South Delhi incident, the British national was reluctant to lodge a formal complaint out of fear.

**Crimes against foreigners**

According to data of the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), Delhi recorded 27 cases of crime against foreigners last year, a drastic decline from 62 cases reported in 2020 and 123 in 2019. Rajasthan has shown a sharp reduction in registration of crimes from 16 in 2019 to just 4 in 2020 and two cases last year, which could be attributed to the sharp decline in tourist arrivals due to COVID-19.

As many as 29 foreigners were murdered in the last three years. While 14 foreigners fell victim to rape last year, 16 were raped in 2020 and 12 in 2019. As many as 15 cases of assault to outraging modesty of foreign women were registered last year across the country, apart from 14 complaints of cheating. While 142 cases of theft were lodged by foreigners in 2019, it declined to 52 in 2020 and further dipped to 23 in 2021.

Crime against foreigners not only dents our image globally but could also adversely affect the inflow of foreign tourists, which is a vital source of income for our country. Tourism happens to be one of the biggest foreign exchange earners for India and constant effort needs to be made to raise earnings. While India's earnings through tourism was $30.06 billion in 2019, it declined to $6.958 billion in 2020 due to COVID-19 and the resultant restrictions in foreign tourists entering the country. A marginal increase of $8.797 billion was recorded last year.

With optimistic predictions of about 13.34 million foreign tourists arriving by 2024, there is a pressing need to upgrade our security systems specially to provide a flawless security blanket cover to foreign tourists. Safety assumes utmost importance to draw tourists in hordes. .

In order to provide a safe environment for tourists, the Ministry of Tourism, in collaboration with the Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPRD), organised a conference in New Delhi on October 19, 2022. It was organised with a view to "sensitise the specific requirements of the tourists for effective implementation of Uniform Tourist Police Scheme at pan-India level".

Though the concept of 'tourist police' has been in vogue for the past few years, it has not been given the kind of attention it deserves. The States that have tourist police are Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Delhi, Goa, Rajasthan and Kerala.

In view of the forthcoming G20 Summit, the Delhi police is gearing up its tourist police wing, which was hitherto in a neglected state and so are other States which will see a huge influx of foreigners.

**The tourist police scheme**

The BPRD has brought out a booklet on the tourist police scheme detailing the mode of setting up of tourist police stations and control rooms, outposts, uniforms, recruitment, qualifications, training and logistics requirements for tourist police stations. As many as 25 popular tourist spots have been identified in the country where the tourist police necessarily need to be deployed to help foreigners. As an incentive, 30% deputation allowance has been recommended for the police personnel who joins the tourist police on deputation.

While the setting up of tourist police stations is a commendable step to provide safety to foreigners, much needs to be done to instil a sense of security in them even before they leave their countries for India. With theft being the most common crime committed against foreigners, all criminals in and around tourist spots need to be identified and kept under constant surveillance.

Since foreigners come for short durations, the cases cannot be allowed to linger on in courts for long. Fast track courts should be set up immediately to try cases of crime against foreigners and the culprits punished speedily. It may be recalled that a rape convict, Bitihotra Mohanty, was tried for raping a German national in Alwar (Rajasthan) on March 21, 2006 and he was sentenced to seven years imprisonment on April 12, that is, within 22 days.

Such speedy disposal of cases of crime against foreigners can be replicated if we have the will.

With optimistic predictions of about 13.34 million foreign tourists arriving by 2024, there is a pressing need to upgrade security systems specially to provide a flawless security blanket cover to foreign tourists

# A reality check on Airport Metro Express

The decision to start two phases has put the government under the scanner

STATE OF PLAY

**V. Geetanath**
geetanath.v@thehindu.co.in

The decision by the Telangana Government to lay the foundation stone to build the 31 km metro line to the Rajiv Gandhi International Airport (RGIA) in Shamshabad from Mindspace Junction/Raidurg, at a cost of ₹6,250 crore, has certainly generated considerable excitement, but a reality check is in order.

The airport metro decision came on the heels of the government seeking the Centre's funding to take up "jointly with external funding" a 26 km-long elevated metro rail to connect Lakdikapul in the city centre to BHEL-Ramachandrapuram in the suburbs. It is also to run across 5 km between Nagole to L.B. Nagar suburbs connecting two terminal stations of phase one of the project and it is estimated to cost ₹8,453 crore.

Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao is set to lay the foundation stone for the mostly elevated airport fast metro and a small section underground inside the airport without an EPC (engineering, procurement and construction) contractor in place, unlike phase one of the Hyderabad Metro Rail project built across three traffic corridors of 69.2 km.

The foundation stone for phase one was laid by the then Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Kiran Kumar Reddy in 2012, a good two years after the L&TMRH (L&T Metro Rail Hyderabad) had bagged the contract for ₹14,132 crore under one of the world's largest Public-Private Partnership (PPP) mode for the metro. It took loan from public sector




banks and obtained Viability Gap Funding (VGF) of ₹1,458 crore by the Central Government, of which ₹254 crore is yet to be released.

The State government had earlier offered "much better incentives than what was offered to L&TMRH" for corporates if they are ready to take up the Airport Metro as PPP work but there were no takers. Now, the bids - technical or financial bids for the Airport Metro – are yet to be called for inviting companies to take up the project under the EPC mode.

The Hyderabad Airport Metro Rail Limited (HAML), the special purpose vehicle, has just called for tenders for appointment of a general consultant (GC) for the project to oversee the work of tender documentation, reviewing the detailed project report (DPR) prepared by the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) five years ago, planning, quality control, and so on. The GC could be in place by mid-January.

Once the bids are called, it could take about 45 days before firms are shortlisted for technical evaluation to check if they have had the expertise and the muscle to pull it off. A similar time period is likely for the financial bids when the 'L1' or the lowest bidder will be chosen.

"It can take up to six months depending on how fast it is done to identify the right construction partner in the present scenario. Thereafter, the selected firm will have to do extensive survey of the route, alignment, soil testing, finalise viaduct and span drawings at crossings before work can actually begin as the ground situation has been changing every year on the proposed route. This could take up to a year," said senior metro rail engineers, seeking anonymity.

Hence, completing the entire project within three years as is being envisaged is going to be a challenging task - the L&TMRH took seven years for 69 km, even with the contractor using new technology and the government releasing funds on time despite a 'tight' financial situation, they added.

The Airport Metro is to be a 'high speed' service running at 100 kmph. It will provide fast commute with limited halts with airport check-in at the starting station for a 20-minute ride till the airport terminal.

Though about four lakh passengers are using the first phase of the metro, the L&TMRH had reported a loss of ₹1,745.85 crore for 2021-22. It had also sought the State government's help to cope with the overall loss of over ₹3,000 crore, mainly due to delays in permissions during the construction.

While citizens yearning for metro rail expansion due to packed road traffic will be happy with these proposed works, the sudden decision to kickstart two metro rail phases after keeping silent for the last four years has certainly set tongues wagging about the intention behind these big announcements, considering the talk of early polls to the Legislative Assembly.

# Ukraine-Russia war rages on as refugees pile up

More than 15.8 million Ukrainians have been externally displaced, with majority of them being women

DATA POINT

**Agencies**

Over 285 days have passed since Russia invaded Ukraine and escalations continue unabated. On December 6, drones struck inside Russia's border with Ukraine exposing the vulnerability of some of Moscow's most important military sites. The Ukrainian officials did not formally confirm carrying out drone strikes inside Russia, and they have maintained ambiguity over previous high-profile attacks.

A fire broke out at an airport in Russia's southern Kursk region that borders Ukraine after a drone hit the facility, the region's governor said on Tuesday. In a second incident, an industrial plant 80 km from the Ukrainian border was targeted by drones, which missed a fuel depot at the site.

Moscow blamed Kyiv for attacks on two air bases deep inside Russia on December 5. The attacks on the Engels base in the Saratov region on the Volga River and the Dyagilevo base in the Ryazan region in western Russia were some of the most brazen inside Russia during the war. The Engels base hosts Tu-95 and Tu-160 nuclear-capable strategic bombers that have been involved in strikes on Ukraine. Dyagilevo houses tanker aircraft used for mid-air refueling.

In the aftermath, Russian troops carried out another wave of missile strikes on Ukrainian territory, struck homes and killed civilians, compounding damage done to power and other infrastructure over weeks of missile attacks. On the night of December 5, Russia shelled towns near the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant that left over 9,000 homes without running water. The towns lie across the Dnieper River from the nuclear plant, which was seized by the Russian forces in the early stages of the war. Russia and Ukraine have, for months, accused each other of shelling at the plant.

Meanwhile, President Volodymyr Zelensky on Tuesday visited the frontline region of Donetsk in east Ukraine, describing fighting in the area as "difficult" with Russian forces pushing to capture the industrial city of Bakhmut.

**Map 1** depicts the situation as of day 286 of the war. The regions controlled by Russia currently and before February 24, 2022, are highlighted. Cities such as Mariupol and Melitopol, large sections of Luhansk and Kherson Oblasts are still under the control of Russia.

As of November 29, more than 15.8 million Ukrainians have been externally displaced. About 7.9 million of them took refuge in European nations as shown in **Map 2**. More than 10 lakh refugees from Ukraine have crossed to Germany and Poland, while about 3 to 5 lakh have moved to France, Spain and the Czech Republic.

A majority of the refugees were women and 78% have been separated from their immediate family members. **Chart 3** shows the reasons behind such separations. The primary reason was military conscription, wherein men were mandatorily enrolled for service in Ukraine's armed forces. Other separations were due to some family members refusing to leave the country or could not leave due to restrictions on movement. The results are based on a survey conducted by the UNHCR between May and September 2022

About 46% of the refugees had received university-level education, while almost 30% were vocationally trained. Above 70% of them were employed before being forced to leave. **Chart 4** shows the educational levels of the displaced refugees and their employment status before leaving Ukraine.

With the war showing no signs of abating, more than 60% of the refugees intend to continue as refugees, with only 13% wanting to move back to Ukraine. **Chart 5** shows the near future intentions of Ukrainian refugees.

## Since the war ensued

The maps and charts are sourced from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). Map 1 was sourced from Graphic News. The data shows the present condition of the Ukrainian regions since the war started and the conditions of the refugees displaced from the country

AP

**Map 1** | The map shows the regions in Ukraine controlled by Russia as on the 286th day of the war

**Map 2** | The map shows the number of refugees from Ukraine residing in various European countries as on November 29

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**Chart 3** | The chart shows the reasons* behind separation of refugees from family

*multiple responses were possible

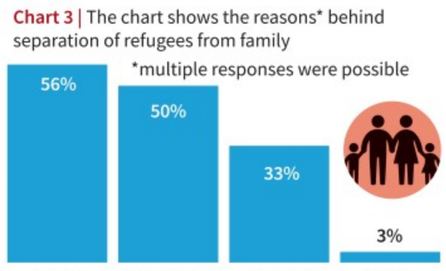



**Chart 4A** | The chart shows the educational levels of displaced refugees

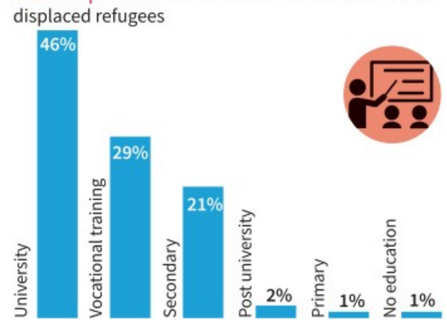



**Chart 4B** | The chart shows the employment status of refugees before leaving Ukraine

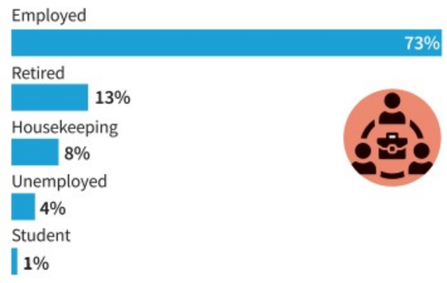
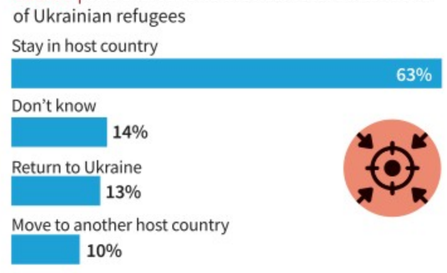



**Chart 5** | The chart shows the near future intentions of Ukrainian refugees




FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO DECEMBER 8, 1972

## U.S. astronauts heading towards Moon

Houston, Dec. 7: The Apollo-17 lunar landing mission got off to a perfect, though delayed, start to-day and the three astronauts on board were soon out of Earth orbit and streaking towards the moon. Less than four hours after lift-off from Cape Kennedy at 05-33 GMT, crewmen Eugene Cernan, Ron Evans and Jack Schmitt completed the manoeuvres necessary to blast the craft out of Earth's gravitational hold, and to realign the space flight for its 4,00,000 kilometres outward journey. With Evans at the controls, the command module detached itself from the Saturn rocket's third - and last remaining - stage, turned round in space and docked nose-to-nose with the lunar land module, pulling it from its position inside the rocket section. Then the craft, LEM foremost, set course for the moon. Apollo-17 was going so smoothly that a course correction scheduled for 9:18 am (19-40 IST) was cancelled. The astronauts had fired an extra strong, and accurate, blast of their rocket to break out of earth orbit towards the moon, going a little faster than originally planned to make up for lost time. The astronauts partially closed down their spacecraft America for a well-earned five hours of sleep.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO DECEMBER 8, 1922

## Anthrax

London, Dec. 6: The International Anthrax Commission has passed a resolution including the agenda for the next conference, a draft convention of the International Labour Office requiring the hairs and wools used in brush-making, upholstering and textile industries be disinfected before they are handled industrially, except where the country of origin is included in the schedule of countries, where the danger is slight or the material is effectively disinfected before shipment. Sir Thomas Oliver (Australia) suggested that wool might be disinfected at Liverpool station on behalf of the countries which were not prepared to erect their own stations. Sir William Middlebrook, Chairman, did not desire to impose compulsion to send goods to Britain, but he could assure the meeting that there would be no differentiation in charges on one nation and another.

## From Page One

# RBI goes slow on rates, limits increase to 35 bps

The six-member monetary policy committee was, however, not unanimous about the latest policy stance, with one member voting against the rate hike and two members disagreeing with the decision "to remain focussed on withdrawal of accommodation to ensure that inflation remains within the target going forward, while supporting growth". Mr. Das left it to the market to interpret if the policy was 'hawkish' or 'dovish' and was non-committal about this hike marking the end of the current rate increase cycle that has lifted the policy rate from 4% in April to 6.25%.

Mr. Patra, however, pointed out that the moderation in the pace of rate hikes "after continuous 50 basis points increases" indicates a "shift in the wind". "If things pan out as we have projected, then the 50-basis point consecutive increases in the rate are over," he said, adding that the central bank can still not take its shoes off the pedal as inflation needs to be guided lower and stabilised.

Asserting that India's monetary policy is determined primarily by domestic factors, Mr. Das, however, noted that the "terminal rate" for the U.S. Federal Reserve, which has raised interest rates by 3.5 percentage points over the same period and whose actions affect global financial conditions, is "anybody's guess". But they cannot be tightening monetary policy "endlessly", he remarked.

**'Tide will turn'**

"When the tightening is over, the tide will surely turn. Capital flows to India will improve and external financing conditions will ease," the Governor said, adding that the rupee, which has been resilient and stable, should be allowed to find its level and the central bank is only striving to rein in excessive volatility in the exchange rate.

"We must deal with the current global hurricane with confidence and endurance," he averred, stressing that though India is decoupled from the global economy in several aspects, it cannot be entirely decoupled in an inter-connected world. "Our actions will be nimble and in the best interest of the economy. The aspect of growth will obviously be kept in mind," the Governor underlined.

Wednesday's rate increase was largely in sync with market expectations, and SBI group chief economic adviser Soumya Kanti Ghosh said there is a low probability of a "terminal 25 bps rate hike" at the next monetary policy review. "However, that (rate hike) if it were to happen, will also be accompanied with a change in stance to neutral," he reckoned.

The next monetary policy review is due on February 8, soon after the Union Budget 2023-24 is presented and the U.S. Federal Open Market Committee policy statement in late January.

# Why is Parliament silent on voiding of NJAC: V-P

**PM welcomes VP**

Earlier in the day, Prime Minister Narendra Modi welcomed the Vice President, followed by felicitations by other members. Hailing Mr. Dhankhar as a leader who has both the elements of *jawan* (soldier) and *kisan* (farmer) in him, the Prime Minister said that the House was fortunate to receive his able and effective leadership at this juncture in history.

"Our Vice President is a *kisan putra* (farmer's son) and he studied at a Sainik school. Thus, he is closely associated with *jawans* and *kisans*," said Mr. Modi. He also expressed the hope that Mr. Dhankhar would keep the house engaged with his ready wit, just as his predecessor Venkaiah Naidu did with his one-liners.

Noting that India has just assumed the presidency of the G-20, the PM said that this is also a time when India has commenced its journey into *Amrit Kaal*, referring to the 25 years remaining before the centenary celebrations of the country's Independence. "Not only will *Amrit Kaal*' be a period of development and glory for the country, it will also be an occasion when India will play an important role in giving direction to the world," Mr. Modi said.

# AAP wins municipal elections in Delhi

The high-stakes civic poll was the city's first since three erstwhile municipal corporations were merged to constitute a unified MCD in May. The number of municipal wards were also reduced from 272 to 250, as part of a delimitation exercise.

In the 2017 civic polls, the BJP had swept 181 of the 272 seats, with a vote share of 36.08%, while the AAP, which was contesting its debut elections in the city, secured only 48 seats along with a vote share of 26.23%.

In the 2022 MCD elections, the BJP's seats dwindling down to 104 despite an actual increase in vote share to 39.1%, while the AAP's victory came on the back of a 42% vote share.

Reacting to the party's loss, Delhi BJP President Adesh Gupta said that the people of Delhi had given the saffron party the responsibility of being a "strong Opposition". He added, "We will constructively keep raising the issues of the general public."

Meanwhile, the Congress' hopes of a surprise comeback fell flat after the party secured only nine seats, out of the 247 that it contested.

# No plans to conduct recruitment exams only in Hindi: Centre

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

There is no proposal to conduct recruitment exams held by the Staff Selection Commission (SSC) only in Hindi, the government told Parliament on Wednesday.

"The medium of examinations conducted by Staff Selection Commission is normally Hindi and English. However, Paper-II of Multi-Tasking (non-technical) Staff Examination is conducted in all the languages included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution. There is no proposal to conduct the examinations of SSC only in Hindi," Minister of State for Home Affairs Ajay Kumar Mishra said in the Rajya Sabha. He responded to a question from CPI(M) member A.A. Rahim.

The Minister also said that while the UPSC preliminary examination has multiple-choice objective-type questions in Hindi and English, in the Civil Services (Mains) examination, candidates have the option to write answers in any regional language, except in case of language and literature papers.

According to some media reports, the report of the Committee of Parliament on Official Language presented by Home Minister Amit Shah to President Droupadi Murmu in September recommended Hindi as a compulsory medium of instruction in educational institutions such as Kendriya Vidyalayas, IITs and central universities, as well as replacing compulsory English papers with Hindi ones in recruitment exams.

This had prompted strong comments from various quarters which called these proposals antithetical to federal principles of Constitution that would harm the multi-lingual fabric of the country.

# Reservation for Dalit converts: SC to decide on hearing petitions

## Centre tells court to wait for recommendations of Balakrishnan panel; plea wants Clause 3 of the Constitution (SC) Order, 1950 declared void

**Krishnadas Rajagopal**
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Wednesday said it would examine the question whether the court should wait for the report of the Justice K.G. Balakrishnan Commission or go ahead and hear a series of petitions seeking Scheduled Castes quota benefits for Dalit converts to other religions, primarily Christianity.

The Centre, through Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta, said only persons professing Hinduism, Buddhism and Sikhism are deemed to belong to the SC community. The inclusion of a group in the SC list under Clause 3 of the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950 would be required to show "extreme social, educational and economic backwardness arising out of practice of untouchability". Mr. Mehta said the court may wait till the new commission came up with its recommendations. The time given to the commission is two years.

The petitioners sought the court to declare Clause 3 of the 1950 Order to be declared unconstitutional and void.

> Dalits who had previously converted cannot now return to claim reservation benefits enjoyed by those who chose to stay back in the Hindu religious system
> **UNION GOVERNMENT**

The government argued that Dalits who had converted to Christianity or Islam to overcome caste oppression cannot now return to claim reservation benefits enjoyed by those who chose to stay back in the Hindu religious system. Besides, the government said, Christianity is an egalitarian religion which did not adhere to any caste system. The court listed the case for hearing in January.

# Review plea filed against SC verdict on EWS quota

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

The All India Backward Classes Federation has filed a review petition against a majority judgment of the Supreme Court which upheld the 10% reservation in government jobs and institutions for economically weaker sections (EWS), including forward castes, of society.

The review petition said EWS reservation was for a social and educational class with a creamy layer cut-off. As a result, the majority opinions only considered whether reservation on economic grounds violated the Basic Structure of the Constitution.

The petition said the judgment had upheld the "division of the population of India for purposes of reservation into mutually exclusive compartments, which is fundamentally destructive of the basic structure principle of fraternity".

# Counting of Gujarat Assembly polls at 37 centres; results to be out today

**Mahesh Langa**
AHMEDABAD

**Under surveillance:** Polling officials monitoring strong rooms through CCTV footage, ahead of counting for the Gujarat Assembly election, in Ahmedabad on Tuesday. VIJAY SONEJI

For the Gujarat Assembly election, votes will be counted at 37 centres amidst tight security and in the presence of Election Commission of India (EC)-appointed observers across the State.

The poll body has made elaborate security arrangements and completed all preparations for the counting process, and the entire counting process at 37 centres will be videotaped.

According to details shared by officials of the EC, for the counting process, 182 counting observers and as many election officials will be posted at the every counting centre, while every table in the counting centres will have a micro-observer, a counting supervisor and a counting assistant.

The State Assembly polls were held in two phases, with polling for the first phase in 89 seats held on December 1, and for the remaining 93 seats on December 5.

The elections witnessed a turnout of 64.33%, the lowest in the last 10 years. Of the 4.9 crore registered voters, only 3.16 crore voted in the elections.

For 182 Assembly seats, the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) contested all seats, while the new entrant in the State's political landscape, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), contested 181 seats. The main Opposition party, the Congress, contested 179 seats, while its alliance partner, the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP), contested in two seats.

A total of 1,621 candidates are in the fray for the elections to 182 Assembly seats.

# 10,000 personnel to oversee counting process in Himachal

**Press Trust of India**
SHIMLA

More than 10,000 security personnel, returning officers, and other support staff will oversee the counting of votes for the Himachal Pradesh Assembly election on Thursday.

The counting will start at 8 a.m. in 68 counting halls spread across 59 locations throughout the State, Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) Maneesh Garg said on Wednesday. The counting will start with the postal ballot at 8 a.m., followed by EVM counting at 8.30 a.m.

Mr. Garg said that subject to availability of space, a maximum of 14 counting tables and a minimum of eight counting tables will be placed in the counting halls, with a separate table to accommodate nearly 500 postal ballots.

There will also be separate tables for scanning of electronically transmitted postal ballots linked to computers for counting. About 76.44% of voters had exercised their franchise in the Assembly polls held on November 12.

No candidate or any other person will be allowed within 100 metres of counting centres except those with a valid identity card/pass issued by the Election Commission of India. A system will be put in place for receiving counting related information and complaints at the CEO office. A helpline number 1950 has been made active.

# Bill to amend law on cooperative societies introduced in LS

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

A Bill to amend the Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, aimed at bringing in transparency in the sector, was introduced in the Lok Sabha on Wednesday.

Many Opposition MPs asked for the Bill to be referred to a Standing Committee for review arguing that it encroached on the rights of States.

The Multi-State Cooperative Societies (Amendment) Bill, 2022, was introduced by Minister of State (MoS) for Cooperation B.L. Verma.

The Bill seeks to strengthen governance, reform the electoral process, improve the monitoring mechanism, and ensure ease of doing business in multi-State cooperative societies.

It also aims to improve the composition of boards and ensure financial discipline, besides enabling the raising of funds in the multi-State cooperative societies.

In order to make the governance of multi-State cooperative societies more democratic, transparent and accountable, the Bill has provisions for setting up of Cooperative Election Authority, Cooperative Information Officer and Cooperative Ombudsman. To promote equity and facilitate inclusiveness, provisions relating to representation of women and Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe members on the board of multi-State cooperative societies, have been included.

Leader of the Congress in the Lok Sabha Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury said cooperative societies came under the State List.

"There is a clear indication that the Central government has been encroaching upon the territory of State governments [and] that is why protests are cropping up across the nation," Mr. Chowdhury said.

Revolutionary Socialist Party (RSP) leader N.K. Premachandran said the Bill went against the spirit of the definition of cooperative societies as enshrined in the Constitution. The legislation was against the federal structure of the country, he alleged.

# SC directs Centre, RBI to submit records behind demonetisation decision

**Krishnadas Rajagopal**
NEW DELHI

**Lengthy wait:** People queue outside RBI to exchange their old ₹500 and ₹1,000 notes, in New Delhi, in November 2016. FILE PHOTO

The Supreme Court on Wednesday directed the Union government and the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to place on record the "relevant records" of the 2016 demonetisation policy.

Representing the Centre before a Constitution Bench led by Justice S. Abdul Nazeer, Attorney General R. Venkataramani said the documents would be handed over to the court in a sealed cover.

The Bench, also comprising Justice B.R. Gavai, A.S. Bopanna, V. Ramasubramanian and B.V. Nagarathna, reserved the case for judgment.

The court had said it would not remain a mute spectator without judicially reviewing the procedure or manner in which ₹500 and ₹1,000 currency notes were withdrawn as legal tender in November 2016.

"Just because it is an economic policy, the court cannot fold its hands and sit... The court will go into the manner in which the decision was taken," Justice Nagarathna had addressed the government and the RBI.

Senior advocate P. Chidambaram, for the petitioners, had submitted that the RBI had "meekly submitted to the government's recommendation to withdraw 80% of the currency in the market after a deliberation of just one hour in one day".

He had said finding the objectives of the 2016 demonetisation exercise was like looking for a "black cat in a dark room". He had submitted that the government cannot "frighten" the court to not judicially review the policy by saying that judges were not experts in economic policy.

The government had countered that demonetisation was a "transformational economic policy step" which led to a phenomenal growth in digital transactions while choking the evils of black money, terror funding and counterfeiting. It claimed that demonetisation was a "critical" part of a policy push to "expand formal economy" and thin the ranks of the informal cash-based sector.

The central bank, represented by senior advocate Jaideep Gupta, said demonetisation was done on the recommendation of the RBI.

# '8 Kashmiri journalists received terror threats'

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) informed the Rajya Sabha on Wednesday that eight journalists working for Srinagar-based newspapers have received threat from terrorists and four of them have resigned from their jobs.

Responding to a question by BJP's Sushil Kumar Modi, Minister of State for Home Nityanand Rai said the journalists received the threat through terror blog *Kashmir Fight*. "Four media persons have reportedly resigned. The media persons who resigned belong to *Rising Kashmir*. In this regard, a case has been registered in Shergari Police Station, Srinagar," the reply said.

It added that the government has zero tolerance policy against terrorism and the security situation has improved significantly in J&K. The reply said there has been substantial decline in terrorist attacks in J&K from 417 in 2018 to 229 in 2021. "Various measures have been taken to protect the lives of minorities," the reply said.

# Congress and Trinamool flag denial of House panel leadership

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

In the Lok Sabha on Wednesday, the Congress and the Trinamool Congress raised the issue of nomination of chairpersons of parliamentary committees, which were reorganised in October. They alleged flouting of established parliamentary convention of choosing Opposition leaders for the posts.

Leader of the Congress in the Lok Sabha Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury first raised this issue. He was backed by Trinamool leader Sudip Bandyopadhyay. "The convention of appointing the chairman of parliamentary committees from Opposition parties is being done away with," Mr. Chowdhury said.

At this, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla asked whether there was an implied criticism of the Speaker's actions.

**Trinamool's criticism**

Mr. Bandyopadhyay said the members were not criticising the Speaker, but despite the Trinamool being one of the largest parties in the Lok Sabha, it was informed by the Parliamentary Affairs Ministry that it would not be given the chairmanship of any committee.

"I was called up by the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs that this was to be notified. And while we are speaking out against it, we are not going to beg," Mr. Bandyopadhyay said.

Following the rejig, notified by the Secretariats of both the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha, the Congress and the Trinamool lost the chairmanship of four key panels, including the committees on Home Affairs and Information Technology, and no longer head any major committee.

The chairpersons of the six major committees – Home, IT, Defence, External Affairs, Finance and Health – now belong to the BJP and its allies.

# Collective effort needed for a productive session: Modi

PM appeals to all parties to give first-time MPs a chance to take part in debates; expresses hope that the cordial atmosphere at a recent all-party meet would be witnessed in Parliament too

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday appealed to leaders of all parties for cooperation to make the Winter Session of Parliament more productive.

He asked them to keep in view that for the first-time MPs, the sessions were a valuable experience of public debate and an important aspect of public life.

Mr. Modi said this while making his customary remarks at the start of the session and was flanked by Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi, Ministers of State for Parliamentary Affairs Arjun Ram Meghwal and V. Muraleedharan, and Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office Jitendra Singh.

**Joint endeavour:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressing the media at Parliament House in New Delhi on Wednesday. R.V. MOORTHY

"I am making this appeal for cooperation especially in view of the first-term MPs, who have met me over the course of this Lok Sabha. They have, across party lines, expressed their pain of being denied an opportunity to learn due to disruption and adjournments," the Prime Minister said.

Mr. Modi urged all political parties to give first-time MPs a chance to participate in debates for their bright future and also for preparing the next generation in democracy.

He also said that India hosting the G-20 summit in 2023 was not merely a diplomatic event but also a chance to showcase the country's capabilities before the world.

Mr. Modi said he had a cordial discussion with leaders of different parties recently at an all-party meeting on G-20.

"The spirit in which those discussions were held, I hope, will be reflected in the course of this session of Parliament as well, and we can accomplish much of what we have set out to do," he said.

The Winter Session began on Wednesday and will continue till December 29 with a total of 17 sittings of both Houses.

# In show of unity, Trinamool, AAP attend Opposition meet called by Cong. chief Kharge

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) and the Trinamool Congress, which have been questioning the Congress's status as the lead Opposition party, participated in a meeting of Opposition parties hosted by Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Wednesday, the first day of the Winter Session of Parliament.

The AAP's Rajya Sabha leader Sanjay Singh and the Trinamool's Lok Sabha leader Sudip Bandhopadhyay were present at the meeting.

Thirteen Opposition parties participated in the discussions.

Together they zeroed in on nearly 20 issues that will be raised during the session, including inflation, unemployment, the prolonged stand-off at the India-China border and the government's "attack" on constitutional institutions.

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge with leaders of Opposition parties at the meeting on Wednesday. TWITTER/@KHARGE

"Parliament is the abode of democratic deliberation. We, the like-minded parties, will strongly raise all the issues relevant to our people," Mr. Kharge tweeted after the meeting.

"If laws are made in haste, then they attract judicial scrutiny. Therefore, we expect that all important Bills should be sent to joint/select committees so that they are carefully examined. We are ready to extend full cooperation in parliamentary processes and debates," the Congress chief said.

The decision to oppose the Multi-State Cooperative Societies (Amendment) Bill was taken at the meeting. The parties have also decided to oppose the Forest Conservation (Amendment) Bill, 2022.

# India will build consensus within G-20 on global issues: Minister

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

India will try to build a consensus on crucial global issues during the G-20 Presidency for the 2023 summit which was scheduled to be held next September, Minister of State for External Affairs Meenakshi Lekhi said in the Lok Sabha on Wednesday.

Informing the House about the government's international initiatives, she said that India's policy on the Ukraine crisis had been "consistent and persistent" and that India would champion the voice of the global south in the G-20.

Ms. Lekhi drew attention to the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit in Samarkand where Prime Minister Narendra Modi met with Russian President Vladimir Putin and emphasised the need for peace.

Ms. Lekhi informed the Lok Sabha that Kashi had been designated as the SCO Cultural and Tourist Capital for 2022-23. This initiative would help showcase the cultural heritage of India. She briefed the House about the G-20 related meetings.

Ms. Lekhi said India's G-20 Presidency would be based on *Jan Bhagidari* (People's Participation) which would draw participation from all sections of the people.

She described India's foreign policy as a means to serve the people of India and said, "we will do whatever it takes to discharge that responsibility".

# India will not tolerate any unilateral attempts to change LAC: Jaishankar

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar informed the Rajya Sabha on Wednesday that it has been made clear to China diplomatically that any attempts to unilaterally change the Line of Actual Control would not be tolerated.

He was responding to a clarification sought by the Congress's Pramod Tewari and Nasir Hussain on the border situation. They asked whether Prime Minister Narendra Modi had raised the issue of the June 2020 killing of 20 Indian soldiers in Ladakh's Galwan region when he met Chinese President Xi Jinping at the G-20 summit in Indonesia last month.

"Diplomatically, we have been clear with the Chinese that we will not tolerate any attempt to unilaterally change the LAC... So long as they continue to seek to do that, if they have built up forces, in our minds it constitutes a serious issue, then our relation is not normal and the abnormality of that has been witnessed in the past two years. The military commanders of the two countries are talking and it should be left to them," Mr. Jaishankar said.

Responding to a statement by John Brittas of the CPI(M) that India was acting under pressure of the West after the Russia-Ukraine war, Mr. Jaishankar said the government did not ask oil companies to buy Russian oil. They simply went for the best option available. "It depends on what the market gives us. It's not that we buy oil from only one country. It is sensible to go for the best deal. Our concern is on stability and affordability of the energy market," the Minister said.

On India's abstention in the UN vote on the Sri Lankan human rights issue, he said this has been a long-standing position of India.

**PARADIP PORT AUTHORITY**
**e-TENDER CALL NOTICE**

Name of the Work: **"Construction of new gates near Administrative building and Gate No-2,3 & 4 at Paradip Port."**. EMD cost: **Rs. 6,13,006/-**. Last Date & time of submission of Bid **27.12.2022 upto 17:15 Hrs**. For details please refer our website: **eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app.**

Executive Engineer,
Harbour Works Division-III,
Paradip Port Authority.

PPA/PR/211/22-23, Dt.07.12.2022

Government of Karnataka
**Department of Collegiate and Technical Education**
NO. 1, Unnatha Shikshana Soudha, Sheshadri Road, Bangalore – 560 001
Phone: 080 29701510, email: dce.tender2017@gmail.com

**No.: DCE/ITS/PUR/21/2022-INFO- (Computer No:887336)** **Date: 07.12.2022**

**E-Tender Notification**

The Commissioner for Collegiate and Technical Education, Bangalore hereby invites bids in Two-Cover system through e-Procurement portal from eligible bidders for the following Tender. The Tender Documents with detailed terms and conditions may be obtained from the website **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in.**

**Tender Schedules are as below**

| Sl. No. | Tender Name & Number | Date of Floating Tender on e- Procurement Portal | Date and Time of pre-bid meeting | Last date and Time for bidding through eprocurement portal |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | **Tender No: DCE/2022-23/IND1112/Call-3** " Supply, Installation and Maintenance of Sports and Fitness Equipment to RUSA Colleges under the purview of Department of Collegiate and Technical Education" | 06/12/2022 | 09/12/2022 11.00 AM | 20/12/2022 05.30 PM |

DIPR/CP/3437/Zen/2022-23

**Sd/-**
**Additional Director of Collegiate Education, Bangalore, Karnataka**

**KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-Tender Notice**

**Tender No:** e-T Nos. 28, 29 / 2022-23 / SE / PHC / ALP, **Jal Jeevan Mission** – CWSS to Haripad, Mavelikkara and adjoining - Supplying and Laying of Distribution Network and given FHTC for Cheppad and Thazhakkara Panchayath, **EMD :** Rs.5,00,000/-, **Tender Fee :** Rs. 19,518/-, **Last Date for submitting Tender :** 28-12-2022, 02:00 pm **Phone :** 0477 - 2237954.
Website : **www.kwa.kerala.gov.in, www.etenders.kerala.gov.in**

**Superintending Engineer,**
**PH circle, Alappuzha**
KWA-JB-GL-6-1192-2022-23

भा. कृ. अनु. प. - राष्ट्रीय केला अनुसंधान केंद्र
**ICAR – National Research Centre for Banana**
तिरुचिरापपल्ली, तामिलनाडु
**Tiruchirappalli, Tamil Nadu. Telephone: 0431-2618125**

Advertisement No.15/2022 Date: 07.12.2022

**ONLINE INTERVIEW**

It is proposed to fill up the posts of **Post Doctoral Fellow (1 post), Young Professional – II (1 post), Project Associate – I (1 post), Young Professional – I (3 posts), Research Assistant (1 post), Project Assistant (1 post), Senior Project Assistant (3 posts) and Junior Project Assistant (3 posts) on contractual basis**. The post is purely temporary and co-terminus with the project. Eligible candidates may submit their applications as per prescribed proforma with self attested copies of educational qualification / experience certificates, etc through email to nrcbrecruitment@gmail.com. For further details, please visit our Institute website www.nrcb.icar.gov.in

**Sd/-**
**Administrative Officer**

**RAJASTHAN MEDICAL EDUCATION SOCIETY, JAIPUR**
(DIRECTORATE OF MEDICAL EDUCATION)
**Govind Marg, Opp. Psychiatric Hospital, Jaipur**

**No. F.No.6(56)Raj-MES/Store/CT-Scan-Proc./2022/4813** **Dated: 01/12/2022**

**Time Extension Notice**
**NIB No. 54/2022-23**

The Schedule of dates for E-Tender Notice Inviting No. F.No.6(56)Raj-MES/Store/CT-Scan-Proc./2022/13791 dt. 20.10.2022 (Notice inviting Bid No. 54/2022-23) for The Turnkey Project For Supply & Installation of 128-Slice Dual Energy CT-Scanner With State of Art Advanced Technology For Raj- MES Medical Colleges are now being extended as below:-

| S.No. | Description | Previous Date & Time | Amended Date & Time |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Bid Submission End Date | 01.12.2022 6.00 PM | 22.12.2022 6.00 PM |
| 2 | Submission of Demand Draft / Banker Cheque for Tender Fee, Processing fees and Bid Security Amount (as per applicability) at the office of Director, Rajasthan Medical Education Society, Jaipur | 01.12.2022 6.00 PM | 22.12.2022 6.00 PM |
| 3 | Technical Bid Opening Date | 02.12.2022 11.00 AM | 23.12.2022 11.00 AM |

Above mentioned Detailed tender notice and documents can be seen on website http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in, http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in

**UBN- MES2223GLOB00073** **Director**
**DIPR/C/15548** **Raj-MED**

Email: acez1jpr.pwd@rajasthan.gov.in
**कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियंता सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, संभाग-प्रथम, जयपुर**
पी.डब्ल्यू.डी. कैम्पस, जैकब रोड, जयपुर क्लब के सामने, जयपुर, फोन नं. 0141-2223525
क्रमांकः अमुअ/जोन-प्रथम/निविदा सूचना संख्या 13/2022-23/डी--2084 दिनांकः 28.11.2022
**(Expression of Interest)**
**ई-निविदा सूचना संख्या 13/2022-23**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | कार्यालय का नाम | अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियंता, सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, संभाग जयपुर-प्रथम |
| 2 | निविदा कार्य का नाम | Inviting expression of interest for providing skilled manpower, providing testing laboratory equipments, getting NABL accreditation and operation of various PWD District QC Labs for 4 Years. |
| 3 | कार्य का विवरण | Providing of skilled manpower, providing testing laboratory equipments, getting NABL accreditation and operation of various PWD District QC Labs for 4 Years under control of various PWD Zones of Bharatpur, Bikaner, Jaipur-I, Jaipur-II, Kota Tonk and Udaipur-II. As details below- |
| 4 | ऑनलाईन EOI जमा करवाने की अंतिम तिथि व समय | 29.11.2022 को प्रातः 9.30 बजे से 19.12.2022 सायं 06.00 बजे तक |
| 5 | ऑनलाईन EOI खोलने की दिनांक व समय | 20.12.2022 को दोपहर 02.00 बजे |

| S.No. | Name of Zone | Name of Dist. Lab. |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Bharatpur | Bharatpur |
| | | Dholpur |
| | | Karauli |
| 2 | Bikaner | Churu |
| | | Hanumangarh |
| | | Sri Ganganagar |
| 3 | Jaipur-I | Sikar |
| | | Jhunjhunu |
| 4 | Jaipur-II | Alwar |
| 5 | Kota | Baran |
| | | Bundi |
| | | Jhalawar |
| 6 | Tonk | Tonk |
| | | Sawai Madhopur |
| | | Dausa |
| 7 | Udaipur-II | Banswara |
| | | Pratapgarh |
| | | Dungarpur |

**UBN No.** PWD2223WSOB11784

(डी.के. अग्रवाल)
अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियंता
सा.नि.वि. संभाग-प्रथम, जयपुर

DIPR/C/15425/2022

**OFFICE OF THE ADDL. CHIEF ENGINEER P.W.D. ZONE TONK**
File No:- 3372-3383 Dated:- 30.11.2022

**Notice Inviting Bid**

2 Nos. Bids for Widening And Stregnthning of Road From Dausa - Kundal-Bandikui- Mandawar- Kathumar Road (Sh-78) Km 11/500 To 16/00 & Km 22/00 To 57/0 and Dausa - Kundal - Bandikui - Mandawar - Kathumar Road (Sh-78) Km 57/0 To 83/300 in District Dausa for the Budget Declaration Year 2022-23, Zone Tonk (Provision of Defect liability period is 5 Years) are invited from interested bidders upto 20-12-2022 Time 6.00 PM. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (**http:// eproc.rajasthan.gov.in**, http:// sppp.rajasthan.gov.in) of the state; and Public Works department Rajasthan website. The approximate value of the procurement is Rs. 4316.85 Lacs.
NIB code PWD2223A3040
UBN is: PWD2223WLOB11911
UBN is: PWD2223WLOB11912

(R.S. Bairwa),
Addl. Chief Engineer,
P.W.D., Zone, Tonk
DIPR/C/15508

**कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता, जन स्वास्थ्य अभियांत्रिकी विभाग क्षेत्र. बीकानेर**
फोन 0151-2226451 ईमेल rj_acebi@nic.in
क्रमांकः अति/बी/अंके.बी./2022-23/10852-80 दिनांकः 26.11.2022
**ई-बोली सूचना संख्या अमुअ/बी/2022-23/86-88**

राजस्थान के राज्यपाल की ओर से निम्न हस्ताक्षरकर्ता द्वारा जन स्वास्थ्य अभियांत्रिक विभाग एवं अन्य विभागों में सक्षम श्रेणी में पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों से निम्नानुसार ई-बोली द्वारा बोली आमंत्रित की जाती है। बोलीं प्रपत्र वेबसाईट 'www.phedwater.rajasthan.gov.in", "www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in" एवं http:/eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर दिनांक 30.11.2022 सायं 6.00 बजे से 21.12.2022 सायं 6.00 बजे तक उपलब्ध हैं। इस निविदा सूचना संख्या **ACEBI/2022-23/86-88** में कुल 03 कार्य है. जिनकी कुल अनुमानित लागत रू. 2385.17 लाख हैं। इन निविदाओं के एसपीपी पोर्टल पर यूबीएन नम्बर क्रमशः **PHE2223WLOB10097, PHE2223WLOB10098, PHE2223WLOB10099** है।

(दीपक बंसल) अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियंता
जन स्वा.अभि.विभाग, क्षेत्र-बीकानेर
DIPR/C/15458/2022

**BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE**
**Office of the Executive Engineer,**
**Project Central-1, BBMP, Bengaluru - 560002.**

**No: EE/PC-1/TEND/08/2022-23** **Date: 07-12-2022**

**INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT) - (SHORT TERM)**
**(Through GOK e-Procurement Portal only)**

The Executive Engineer, Project Central-1, BBMP, Bengaluru invites tenders from eligible Tenderers for the Construction of works detailed below.

| Sl. No. | Name of the Work | Approx. Amount Put to Tender (Rs. in Lakhs) | EMD (Rs. in Lakhs ) |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | "Construction of BBMP School and College Buildings at Mathikere in R.R. Nagar Assembly Constituency, Bengaluru" | 882.50 | 13.24 Lakhs (Rs. 1.00 Lakh through E-Procurement & remaining as specified in bid document |

**Calendar of Events:** **1)** Tender Documents may be downloaded from the GOK e-Procurement Website: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in from 08-12-2022. 2)** Last Date for Receipt of Queries is **13-12-2022 upto 17.30 Hrs. in the Office of the Executive Engineer - Project Central-1, BBMP. 3)** Pre Bid Meeting will be held on **14-12-2022 at 16.00 Hrs. in the Office of the Chief Engineer, Project-Central. 4)** Tenders must be Submitted online through e-Procurement Portal **on or before 17.30 Hrs. on 23-12-2022. 5)** Technical Bids will be Opened on **26-12-2022 at 16.00 Hrs. in the Office of the Executive Engineer - Project Central-1, BBMP.** Further details can be had from the above office.

**Sd/- Executive Engineer, Project Central-1, BBMP.**

*PAY DEVELOPMENT CHARGES, HELP TO DEVELOP BENGALURU*

**Office of Additional Chief Engineer PHED, Region Bharatpur**
**Telephone No. 05644-222731, 221500, Email:rj_acebha@nic.in**

**Notice Inviting Bid No. 375-381/2022-23**

Online bids for NIT No. 375-381/2022-23 (7 works), Costing Rs.1409.06 lacs is invited on behalf of the Governor of Rajasthan from eligible enlisted In appropriate class contractors of PHED, Rajasthan and meeting eligibility criteria. Contractors enlisted with other departments of Government of Rajasthan and enlisted with CPWD/ Postal/ Telecom/ Railways / MES / other State Government / Central Government undertakings / organization in class equivalent to "A/AA" class of Rajasthan (as applicable) and meeting prescribed eligibility criteria may also apply. Details of this Bid notification and pre- qualification criteria can also be seen in NIB exhibited on website www.dipr.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in and http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in. Bids are to be submitted online electronic format on website http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in from 28-11-2022 to 21-12-2022 (6PM) & Bids are to be opend at 11.00 AM on 22.12.2022.

**NIB Code :PHE2223A4808**
**UBN No.:**
**1. PHE2223WSOB09939 2. PHE2223WSOB09940 3. PHE2223WSOB09941**
**4. PHE2223WSOB09942 5. PHE2223WSOB09943 6. PHE2223WSOB09944.**
**7. PHE2223WSOB09945**

**(Ram Niwas Meena)**
**Addl. Chief Engineer**
**PHED, Region Bharatpur**
**DIPR/C/15373**

**OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL, RNT MEDICAL COLLEGE & CONTROLLER ASSOCIATED GROUP OF HOSPITALS, UDAIPUR (RAJ.)**

No.RNT/Pur-I/F.16/(e-Tendering Proc)/2022-23/2289 Date:- 25.11.2022

**Notice Inviting Bid No.12/2022-23(e-Tender)**

Bids for Medical Equipments are invited from inerested bidders upto Date:- 19.12.2022 Time:- 10.30 AM. Other Particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.raj.nic.in) of the State.

UBN- MCU2223GLOB00175, MCU2223GLOB00177, MCU2223GLOB00178, MCU2223GLOB00185, MCU2223GLOB00186, MCU2223GLOB00188, MCU2223GLOB00189, MCU2223GSOB00171, MCU2223GSOB00172, MCU2223GSOB00173, MCU2223GSOB00174, MCU2223GSOB00176, MCU2223GSOB00179, MCU2223GSOB00180, MCU2223GSOB00181, MCU2223GSOB00182, MCU2223GSOB00183, MCU2223GSOB00184, MCU2223GSOB00187, MCU2223SSOB00190

PRINCIPAL & CONTROLLER
**DIPR/C/15346**

## INBRIEF

### Encounter on in Shopian in south Kashmir, say police

An encounter started between militants in hiding and the security forces in the Watho area of Shopian in south Kashmir on Tuesday evening, the police said. It started when a joint party of police and security forces were conducting searches. Preliminary reports suggested that two or three militants could be hiding in the area. However, the police could not immediately identify the trapped militants. The public was once again requested by the police not to harbour or provide shelter or extend logistics to militants or militant associates.

### Violence exists in the blood of some people: Sakshi Maharaj

Hindu girls must be careful as violence and a criminal mindset exists "in the blood of some people", BJP MP Sakshi Maharaj said on Wednesday, in what seemed to be an indirect reference to Muslim youth and the Shraddha Walkar murder case. "Hindu girls will have to remove the notion from their mind that 'my Abdul is not like this', as those doing act of cutting body into pieces will never rectify themselves," said the Lok Sabha member from Unnao, who is known for his controversial statements."In the blood of some people, violence exists, they would never refrain from it," he said. He was speaking in Firozabad where he had gone to meet the kin of those killed in a fire.

### Justice Rabstan is Acting CJ of High Court of J&K, Ladakh

Celebrations broke out across the Union Territory of Ladakh as Justice Tashi Rabstan became the first Ladakhi to reach the position of Acting Chief Justice of the joint High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh on Tuesday. Justice Rabstan assumed the position following the retirement of Chief Justice Ali Mohammad Magrey. Justice Rabstan is from Skurbuchan village, Leh, and was the first High Court judge from Ladakh. Senior lawyers of the Bar Association of Kargil-Ladakh welcomed the elevation and said they hoped to see circuit courts in Ladakh soon.

### Did you get your job through reservation, asks HC judge

In a video that has gone viral on social media, a Patna High Court judge is heard asking a suspended Bihar government official whether he got his job through reservation. Justice Sandeep Kumar of the Patna High Court allegedly made the comment while hearing a case involving a land acquisition officer. The court was also informed that the officer was suspended in a vigilance case. When the official had left the courtroom after replying in the affirmative that his employment was in fact helped by reservation, the judge could be heard in the video clip saying, "*Samajh gaye naam se* (I understood from the name)."

# UGC forms panel to work on textbooks in Indian languages

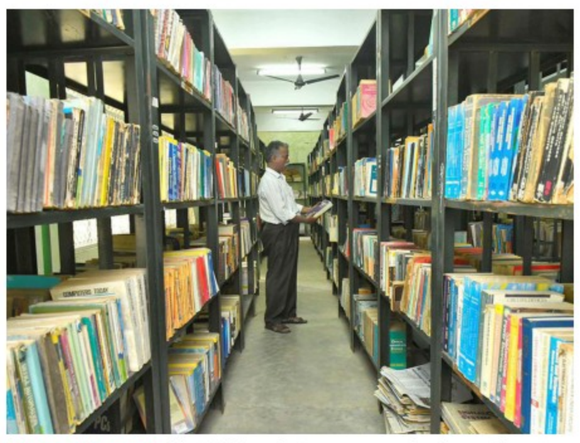
Chairperson M. Jagadesh Kumar met representatives of international publishers for a partnership to translate undergraduate course material and offer it at affordable prices in the digital format

**Jagriti Chandra**
NEW DELHI

The University Grants Commission on Wednesday held a meeting with international publishers to discuss bringing out textbooks for undergraduate courses in Indian languages, and has set a timeline of six to 12 months for the same.

Representatives from Wiley India, Springer Nature, Taylor & Francis, Cambridge University Press India, Cengage India, and McGraw-Hill India were part of an online meeting called by UGC Chairperson M. Jagadesh Kumar.

"We have formed an apex committee to prepare a road map to work towards bringing out textbooks in Indian languages used in undergraduate programmes such as BA, B.Com. and B.Sc. We intend to translate many textbooks into Indian languages in six to 12 months. Subsequently, we will also cover postgraduate programmes. The publishers' representatives have expressed their willingness to partner in this national mission," Professor Kumar told *The Hindu*.



**Vernacular push:** The UGC seeks to encourage Indian authors to bring out textbooks in regional languages. FILE PHOTO

The course books will be translated into various languages such as Telugu, Tamil, Kannada, Malayalam, Marathi, Gujarati, Odiya, Bengali, Assamese, Punjabi, Hindi and Urdu.

The UGC has informed the publishers that it would like to encourage Indian authors and academics to write the textbooks in regional languages. It has also suggested that a model needs to be jointly developed to provide textbooks at affordable prices, in digital format.

The UGC has also offered to provide handholding to publishers regarding the identification of textbooks, translation tools and experts for editing.

**Engineering textbooks**

The All India Council of Technical Education has brought out 270 first-year engineering textbooks in 12 regional languages, and Home Minister Amit Shah launched the first set of the first-year MBBS books in Hindi in Madhya Pradesh, in October.

The Bar Council of India has also formed a panel headed by former Chief Justice of India S. A. Bobde for translating legal books into regional languages.

# Centre asks Google to stop publishing online betting ads

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

**The All India Gaming Federation has welcomed the advisories against gambling ads**

The Information and Broadcasting Ministry has asked Google to comply with its advisory to refrain from publishing or broadcasting advertisements of online betting platforms or any surrogate product depicting them.

The latest guideline was issued by the Ministry in October after it noted violations of a previous advisory in June 13, 2022, as some online offshore betting platforms had started using news websites as a surrogate product to advertise betting platforms on television channels.

The Consumer Affairs Department had also informed the Ministry that online betting platforms were advertising themselves as professional sports blogs, sports news websites and so on while providing an indicative list of online betting platforms that were using news for surrogate advertising. In view of the Guidelines for Prevention of Misleading Advertisements and Endorsements for Misleading Advertisements, 2022 under the Consumer Protection Act, read with the Advertising Code under the Cable TV Network Regulation Act, advertisements of the news websites that were in fact surrogate promotions, did not appear to be in strict conformity with the laws, the Ministry had said.

**Decision welcomed**

The All India Gaming Federation (AIGF), the apex industry body for online gaming, has welcomed the decision for stringent advisories against offshore gambling advertisements.

# Big industries don't observe uniform labour standards in India, says BMS at ILO meet

**A. M. Jigeesh**
SINGAPORE

**Call raised for workers in informal and formal sectors to be provided health protection**

Big industry do not follow labour standards in India, representatives of worker unions said at the ongoing Asia and the Pacific Regional Meeting of the International Labour Organization (APRM of ILO) on Wednesday.

The Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh (BMS), representing workers, and the All India Organisation of Employers (AIOE), an allied body of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), representing employers, presented their views a day after international trade unions attacked the Centre's labour policies at the meeting.

BMS national president Hiranmay Pandya said giant industries and multinational corporations did not observe uniform labour standards in the country. "During the pandemic, contractual workers in the organised and government sectors faced difficulties with wages too," he said. In his intervention during a discussion on the report presented by ILO Director-General Gilbert F. Houngbo, Mr. Pandya stated that the mass migration of labour from one country to other and within the country was a key labour issue. "Workers in the informal and formal sectors need to be provided health protection," he demanded.

In his intervention, AIOE vice-president Alok B. Shriram said that during the pandemic, the Indian government came forward with stimulus packages to provide immediate relief to vulnerable sections of society by ensuring provision of foodgrains at the doorstep. He said prudent steps by the Finance Ministry also helped the MSMEs during the crisis.

He said by introducing four labour codes, India had successfully completed the task of simplification, rationalisation and codification of labour laws in the country.

Earlier, participating in a discussion on "Institutional framework to support transition towards formality and decent work", Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA) leader Sonia George said the informal economy was challenging the existing norms of employment relations. "In most cases, employers will be absent or invisible and there are no ways to locate the employers. This legitimises the need for alternate forms of employment relationships. The role of the state as an employer is very important in many livelihood mechanisms."

Owen Tudor, deputy general secretary of the International Trade Union Confederation, said the unbalanced growth in the Asia Pacific region fails to equitably share the fruits of productivity with the workers.

# Plan to install 500 GW of renewable energy capacity by 2030 to cost ₹2.44 trillion

**Jacob Koshy**
NEW DELHI

India's plan to install 500 GW (gigawatt) of renewable energy capacity by 2030 will involve an investment of at least ₹2.44 lakh crore or ₹2.44 trillion, according to a committee constituted by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA).

"The plan we are launching today is in line with our commitments and it will also pave the way for adding the required generation capacity," said R.K. Singh, Minister for Power and Renewable Energy, at an event to launch the committee's report on Wednesday.

As part of its international climate commitments, India has said that it will source roughly half its energy needs from non-fossil fuel sources by 2030. Financing the energy transition of developing countries such as India is among the thorniest geopolitical issues, with India having said multiple times at United Nations climate conferences that "trillions of dollars" would be required.

**Transmission plan:** Power Minister R.K. Singh, centre, releases the report on building clean energy capacity. @OFFICEOFRKSINGH/TWITTER

The committee, headed by the Chairman of the Central Electricity Authority, had representatives from the Solar Energy Corporation of India, Central Transmission Utility of India Ltd, Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd, National Institute of Solar Energy, and National Institute of Wind Energy. They were tasked with setting out a plan for the transmission system required for having 500 GW of non-fossil fuel-based installed capacity by 2030.

The transmission plan also includes systems required for transporting 10 GW of off-shore wind-based energy located in Gujarat and Tamil Nadu at an estimated cost of ₹28,000 crore.

The inter-regional capacity will increase to about 1.5 lakh MW by 2030 from 1.12 lakh MW at present.

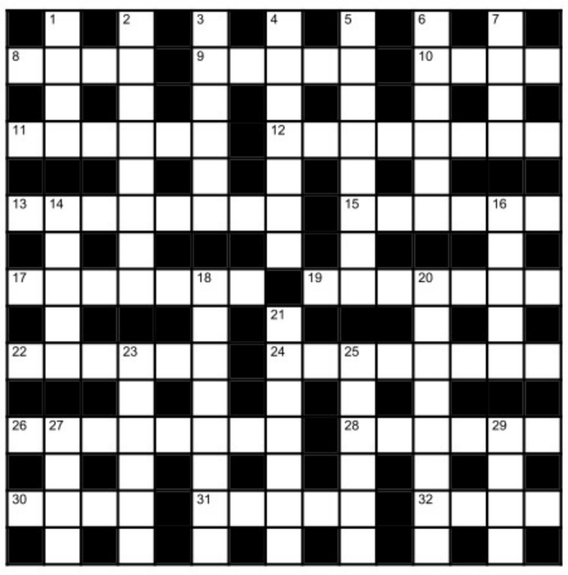
The plan has identified upcoming non-fossil fuel generation centres in the country, including at Fatehgarh, Bhadla and Bikaner in Rajasthan, Khavda in Gujarat, and Anantapur and Kurnool in Andhra Pradesh.

## TH CROSSWORD + 13731

(set by Incognito)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



**Across**

**8** Girl on avenue delivered (4)
**9** Head of Mafia branch has no male bird that is neutered (5)
**10** Heads of the executioners are removed! RIP! (4)
**11** Stare at Bob's incomplete garden structure (6)
**12** Mixed trial lot to make flat-bread (8)
**13** Two hours before noon, Germany first enrolled participant (8)
**15** Pale ale endlessly poured in rice dish (6)
**17** Sikh leader and saint consuming soft grain is most energetic (7)
**19** Student left ploughed ice-field for large building (7)
**22** A maths problem may lead to dis-ease? (6)
**24** Boiled green dal is swollen (8)
**26** Look without end at crazy chap with love for soup (8)
**28** Drink part of kosher rye (6)
**30** Before woman first existed (4)
**31** Glowing coal found at end of some months (5)
**32** Storage equipment got from vehicle reversed by King (4)

**Down**

**1** First course with Ms Gardner? Sparkling wine! (4)
**2** Church gets measuring equipment by end of day in burial ground (8)
**3** Air conditioner wire tender (6)
**4** Seen like a leopard, perhaps (7)
**5** Bold private investigator gets into Tinder arrangement (8)
**6** Extraordinarily irate about model's dress (6)
**7** Shout, "Boy has sharp tool" (4)
**14** Food found in Atlanta pasture (5)
**16** Entice holding a bit of cash for bread? (5)
**18** Explores south-eastern curved structures (8)
**20** Shake sabre for ancestors (8)
**21** Sappers with suspicion build fortress (7)
**23** Take place, bird having swallowed a couple of pages (6)
**25** Manipulated result shows brightness (6)
**27** Old silver is with journalist (4)
**29** Shake stone (4)

## SUDOKU

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | | | 1 | 7 | | | | |
| | | 9 | | | 3 | 4 | | |
| | 3 | 1 | | | | 2 | | |
| | | | 9 | | 1 | 7 | | 8 |
| | 5 | | | | | | 2 | |
| 9 | | 4 | 2 | | 7 | | | |
| | | 7 | | | | 1 | 9 | |
| | | 3 | 7 | | | 8 | | |
| | | | | 2 | 8 | | | 7 |

No.SS5642 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

**Solution to previous puzzle**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | B | L | E | S | T | | B | E | H | E | M | O | T | H |
| G | | A | | E | | A | | N | | T | | T | | A |
| R | E | M | B | R | A | N | D | T | | H | O | T | E | L |
| I | | B | | O | | T | | E | | O | | O | | I |
| M | A | E | S | T | R | I | | R | E | S | U | M | E | D |
| O | | N | | O | | P | | P | | | | A | | E |
| N | O | T | O | N | | E | A | R | T | H | I | N | G | |
| Y | | | | I | | R | | I | | Y | | | | N |
| | S | T | E | N | O | S | I | S | | P | A | S | T | A |
| A | | R | | | | P | | I | | E | | N | | Y |
| C | H | I | A | N | T | I | | N | E | R | V | O | U | S |
| C | | B | | E | | R | | G | | O | | R | | A |
| E | Q | U | I | P | | A | L | L | O | P | A | T | H | Y |
| S | | N | | A | | N | | Y | | I | | E | | E |
| S | T | E | L | L | A | T | E | | F | A | I | R | E | R |

**Solution to yesterday's Sudoku**

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4 | 3 | 2 | 9 | 6 | 8 | 5 | 7 | 1 |
| 8 | 6 | 1 | 7 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 9 |
| 5 | 9 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 8 |
| 9 | 5 | 4 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 6 | 7 |
| 7 | 8 | 3 | 5 | 9 | 6 | 1 | 4 | 2 |
| 1 | 2 | 6 | 4 | 7 | 3 | 9 | 8 | 5 |
| 3 | 7 | 9 | 6 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 4 |
| 6 | 4 | 8 | 2 | 5 | 9 | 7 | 1 | 3 |
| 2 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 6 |

## FAITH

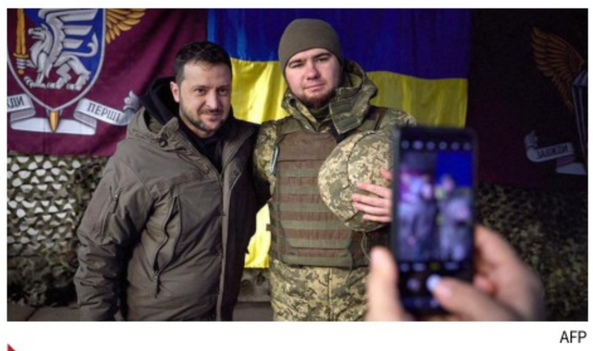
### Desika's only wealth

Vedanta Desika's love for Lord Varadaraja of Kanchipuram stands out in his works. In Vairagya Panchakam, Desika is dismissive of wealth. He says that he has not inherited any wealth from his father. There is only one wealth that he has, and that is the wealth that has been bequeathed to him by Brahma. That wealth is Lord Varadaraja, whose abode is Hastigiri. Thus Desika considers nothing as wealth except Varadaraja Himself, said T.N. Aravamudachariar, in a discourse. Desika wrote a work called Meivrata Manmiyam, which is about Varadaraja. His Tamil works like Amrita Ranjani, Adhikara Sangraham, Amrita Svadhini, Paramapadabangam, etc., have more verses than Meivrata Manmiyam, which has only 29 verses. But Meivrata Manmiyam describes the Lord of Hastigiri so beautifully that it is like reading a kavya, albeit of short length. Every work has an introductory portion, which includes a salutation to a deity, and tells us about the theme of the work. Meivrata Manmiyam has four such introductory verses. Kanchipuram is known as satyavrata kshetra, and so Desika uses the words meivrata nannilam, the Tamil equivalent of satyavrata kshetra.

Brahma Purana says that Brahma performed penance here. Meivrata Manmiyam also gives this account. A poet of a later period, known as Venkatadvari, wrote a work called Varadabhyudaya, which also talks about the Puranic lore of the Varadaraja temple. Desika begins Meivrata Manmiyam by offering his respects to those who seek refuge at the Lord's feet. With bhakti towards such people, he worships Varadaraja, Hastigiri, Ramanujacharya and other Sri Vaishnavas who follow in Ramanuja's footsteps.

NEW YORK

## Ukraine's Zelensky named 'Person of the Year' by *Time* magazine



AFP

The *Time* magazine named Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky "Person of the Year" on Wednesday, saying he inspired Ukrainians and won accolades for his courage in resisting Russia's invasion. "Zelensky's success as a wartime leader has relied on the fact that courage is contagious," the magazine said. REUTERS

DHAKA

## One person killed as Bangladesh police open fire at Opposition rally

AFP

At least one person died and scores were injured in Dhaka as the police fired rubber bullets and tear gas at thousands of Opposition supporters. Tension has been building this week after the main Opposition Bangladesh Nationalist Party called a rally for Saturday in an effort to force Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to resign. AFP

BANDUNG

## Suicide bombing kills Indonesian police officer, wounds 10 persons

REUTERS

A suspected Islamic militant suicide bomber killed a police officer and wounded 10 persons in an attack on a police station in Indonesia. The police said the attacker was linked to the pro-Islamic State group Jamaah Ansharut Daulah (JAD) and had served four years in prison for his involvement in a 2017 bombing. AFP

JAKARTA

## Indonesia releases bombmaker in 2002 Bali attacks on parole

AP

A bombmaker in the 2002 Bali attacks that killed 202 people was released from an Indonesian prison on parole on Wednesday after serving half of his 20-year sentence. Authorities said Umar Patek, who was a leading member of the Al-Qaeda-linked network Jemaah Islamiyah, was successfully reformed in prison. AP

# In boost to Biden, Democrats win Georgia run-off elections

Democrats will now have a 51-49 majority in the Senate for the rest of Joe Biden's term. There will be a divided government, however, with Republicans having narrowly flipped House control

**Associated Press**
ATLANTA

**Reiterating victory:** Raphael Warnock on stage with his mother, children and other family members in Georgia on Tuesday. REUTERS

Democratic Senator Raphael Warnock defeated Republican challenger Herschel Walker in a Georgia run-off election on Tuesday, ensuring Democrats an outright majority in the Senate for the rest of U.S. President Joe Biden's current term and capping an underwhelming midterm cycle for the GOP in the last major vote of the year.

With Mr. Warnock's second run-off victory in two years, Democrats will have a 51-49 Senate majority, gaining a seat from the current 50-50 split with John Fetterman's victory in Pennsylvania. There will be a divided government, however, with Republicans having narrowly flipped House control.

"After a hard-fought campaign it is my honor to utter the four most powerful words ever spoken in a democracy: The people have spoken," Mr. Warnock, 53, told supporters.

"I often say that a vote is a prayer for the world we desire for ourselves and for our children," declared Mr. Warnock, a Baptist pastor and his State's first Black senator.

In last month's election, Mr. Warnock led Mr. Walker by 37,000 votes out of almost 4 million cast, but fell short of the 50% threshold needed to avoid a run-off.

The Senator appeared to be headed for a wider final margin in Tuesday's run-off, with Mr. Walker, a football legend at the University of Georgia and in the NFL, unable to overcome a bevy of damaging allegations, including claims that he paid for two former girlfriends' abortions despite supporting a national ban on the procedure.

# 'German terror cell rejects free, democratic order'

**Agence France-Presse**
FRANKFURT

After the German police staged nationwide raids to bust a far-right "terror cell" plotting to overthrow the government and attack parliament, the prosecutors in Karlsruhe, southern Germany, said they had arrested 25 people, including one in Austria and another in Italy, and identified a further 27 people as suspected members or supporters of the network.

Those arrested are accused of having formed a group that "had set itself the goal of overcoming the existing state order in Germany and replacing it with their own kind of state", they said. "The accused are united by a deep rejection of state institutions and the free, democratic basic order of the Federal Republic of Germany."

**Pre-emptive strike:** The police escort one of the suspects part of the 25 people arrested during raids across Germany. REUTERS

They allegedly planned to appoint one of the arrested suspects, identified by local media as aristocrat and businessman Prince Heinrich XIII Reuss, as Germany's new leader after the coup. Heinrich XIII had already sought to make contact with Russian officials to discuss Germany's "new state order" after the coup, prosecutors said.

Birgit Malsack-Winkemann, a former MP for the far-right AfD party and Berlin judge, was also among those arrested. The Reichsbuerger movement includes far-right extremists, conspiracy theorists and gun enthusiasts who reject the legitimacy of the German republic.

## Taliban carry out first public execution since takeover

**Agence France-Presse**
KABUL

An Afghan man convicted of murder was executed in public on Wednesday, the Taliban said, the first confirmation of such a sentence since the hardline Islamists returned to power.

Last month Taliban supreme leader Hibatullah Akhundzada ordered judges to fully enforce aspects of Islamic law that include public executions, stonings and floggings, and the amputation of limbs from thieves.

"The supreme court was instructed to implement this order in a public gathering of compatriots," Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid said, referring to the "eye for an eye" justice in Islamic law.

# China shifts away from 'zero-COVID', announces more easing measures

**Ananth Krishnan**
BEIJING

China's government on Wednesday announced sweeping new measures to ease pandemic restrictions, marking a significant shift away from three years of a stringent "zero-COVID" policy.

For the first time since the pandemic began, mild positive cases will now be allowed to isolate at home instead of being taken to central quarantine facilities.

The mandatory mass testing regime, a key component of the zero-COVID policy that called for testing, tracing of all cases and close contacts, and quarantining in central facilities until cases in a region are brought back down to zero, has also been phased out along with lockdowns.

"Residential complexes should no longer be totally sealed off. Instead, high-risk and low-risk areas will be designated at building level, potentially affecting a single floor or even just one household," said the announcement, which listed ten new easing measures.

The measures said "apart from nursing homes, medical institutions, primary and secondary schools, kindergartens and other special places, people will no longer be required to provide negative nucleic acid test results and undergo health code checks to access public venues or travel to other regions."

In sum, the measures mean a fundamental shift away from "zero-COVID", taking China's battle against COVID-19 into uncharted waters.

**End to suffering:** A flower seller waiting for customers on a street in Jing'an district in Shanghai on Wednesday. AFP

Wednesday's announcement sparked a range of emotions among residents in China's capital and on social media, with a mix of relief over the ending of lockdowns, testing, and three years of restrictions that brought both economic and social tolls, as well as some anxiety as many confronted for the first time the prospect of contracting an illness that had been, until as recently as last month, framed as a life-threatening one.

### Conflicting messages

As part of the move away from zero-COVID, state media is now emphasising the "decreasing pathogenicity" of the current Omicron variant. That messaging will, however, come up against three years of the public being told to fear the virus.

China's zero-COVID playbook was broadly popular in 2020 and 2021, as it allowed China to avoid a major second wave and enjoy a degree of normalcy for two years albeit with largely closed borders. This meant schools staying open, busy factories, and booming domestic tourism while the rest of the world dealt with surging cases.

But more transmissible variants brought increasingly harsh lockdowns, and a third straight year saw waning public acceptance of the measures, finally sparking into unprecedented protests in many Chinese cities in November, which appear to have pushed authorities to finally open.

The focus now turns on rapidly vaccinating the elderly population, with fears of a huge pressure on China's healthcare system as case numbers surge following the easing.

Only 40% of the 30 million above-80 population has received the three doses of Chinese vaccines that have been shown to be effective in preventing hospitalisation and death. One of Wednesday's measures called for ramping up vaccination efforts for the elderly by setting up special channels and temporary vaccination sites, with the country now facing race against time to protect the vulnerable as it continues to open.

## U.S. warns Saudi Arabia ahead of Xi Jinping's visit

**Agence France-Presse**
WASHINGTON

The White House on Wednesday responded to the visit of President Xi Jinping to Saudi Arabia by warning that China's attempt to spread influence worldwide is "not conducive" to international order.

Asked about the Xi visit, White House National Security Council spokesman John Kirby told reporters that Saudi Arabia remains a crucial U.S. ally, but he issued a warning over China.

"We are mindful of the influence that China is trying to grow around the world. The Middle East is certainly one of those regions where they want to deepen their level of influence," he said.

## Putin declines 'no first use' pledge on atomic bombs

**Associated Press**
MOSCOW

Russian President Vladimir Putin on Wednesday described the country's nuclear arsenals as a deterrent factor in the Ukrainian conflict but demurred when challenged to make a pledge that Russia would not be the first to use them.

Asked by a member of the Human Rights Council to commit Russia to forswearing a first strike, Mr. Putin said that such an obligation might prevent Russia from tapping its nuclear arsenal even if came under a nuclear attack.

**Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited**
(A Joint Venture of GoI & GoK)
Metro Rail Depot, Old Madras Road, Near NGEF Bus Stop, Baiyappanahalli, Bengaluru - 560 038. Ph.: 080-25191039
E-mail: contactus@bmrc.co.in Website: www.bmrc.co.in
No.: BMRCL/O&M/CSW/UG/01/2022-23 Date: 08.12.2022

**TENDER NOTIFICATION**

BMRCL invites tenders from eligible Tenderers for **"Maintenance Contract for Artificer works (Petty Repairs) at Cubbon Park (CBPK), Vidhana Soudha (VDSA), Sir. M. Vishweshwaraiah (VSWA) and Nada Prabhu Kempegowda (KGWA) underground Metro stations including tunnel sections".** Estimated Cost: **Rs. 97.39 Lakhs.** Tender Security Amount: **Rs. 1,94,798/-.** Sale period of tender documents through online: **08.12.2022 to 02.01.2023 (Till Midnight).** Pre Bid Meeting: **30.12.2022 at 11.30 hrs.** Date & time for submission of tender: **06.01.2023 (from 11.00 hrs to 15.00 hrs).** Date and time for opening of tender: **06.01.2023 (at 15.30 hrs).** Cost of tender document: **Rs. 5,900/-.** Completion period: **12 months.** Tender can be downloaded from BMRCL website. For more information visit **http://tender.bmrc.co.in**

**Sd/- Executive Director (O&M)**

**KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED**
(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)

**TENDER NOTIFICATION** (e-Procurement mode only)

**1. No.:SEE/Tr(M)/BRAZ/EE/AEE/F-T6/2022-23/4917 Date: 06.12.2022**

Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited invites Bids for the following works.

**Bid Enquiry No: KPTCL/SEE/TR(M)/BRAZ/AE(O)/T6/Repl of 66kV CB/2022-23/EPR-725/ Call-2 Dt: 06.12.2022.** for Tender for **Combined package for replacement of 04Nos of 66kV CIRCUIT BREAKERS at 220/66KV R/S KPTCL, BIAL Begur, NRS Doddaballapura, Malur and** 66/11kV S/s **Nangali coming under BRAZ Circle On Partial Turnkey, Two Part & Percentage Basis**

**2. No.:SEE/Tr(M)/BRAZ/EE/AEE-3/F-T6/2022-23/4918 Date: 06.12.2022**

**Bid Enquiry No: KPTCL/SEE/TR(M)/BRAZ/EE(O)/AEE-3/T6/2022-23/EPR-732 Dt: 06.12.2022** for Tender For Design, Manufacture, Testing and Supply of **C-Type Wedge Connectors of various sizes** with paddles and CT Studs required for replacement of age old bolted type and as spares for the use at 400/220KV Station, various 220kV Receiving Stations and 66/11KV Sub-stations coming under Transmission (Maintenance), KPTCL, BRAZ Circle, in Bengaluru Transmission Zone as per Technical Specification F.O.R.D at Store/Site basis, including insurance and transportation on two part basis.

The detailed notification regarding the subject enquiry in the e-procurement process can be obtained by logging on to KPTCL website **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** on hyperlink **"e-Procurement-KPTCL"** or directly logging on to website **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **(for Sl.No.1) 09.12.2022 & 08.12.2022 (for Sl.No. 2).**

**Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Elecl.), Transmission (M), BRAZ Circle, KPTCL, U.A.S Campus, Hebbala, Bengaluru-560 024.**

**BANGALORE URBAN ZILLA PANCHAYATH**
Office of the Executive Engineer, Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Division, First Floor, Zilla Panchayat Building, S. Kariyappa Road, Banashankari, Bengaluru - 560070.

**No: EE/RDW&SD/BNG(U)/TND/22/2022-23**
**Dated: 03-12-2022**

**E-PROCUREMENT SHORT TERM TENDER NOTICE**

Tenders are invited through E-Procurement for the works approved Under JJM & SBM Head of grants for the year 2022-23. The Tender Documents can be obtained and Submitted **on or before 14-12-2022 upto 4.00 PM.** For further details contact the above address during office hours or visit Website: **http://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in**

**Sd/- Executive Engineer**
**Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Division**
**Bangalore Urban Dist, Bengaluru.**

DIPR/CP/3435/Adverto/2022-23

**PILIKUIA DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**
Administrative Office: Moodushedde, Mangaluru-575028,
Ph: 0824-2263565, e-mail:pilikula96@gmail.com, website: www.pilikula.com

No.PDA1.CR.65/O & M- BOCs/2022-23 Date:- 03.12.2022

**Re-Tender Notification**

Re-Tender is invited by the undersigned for the service as detailed below. **(through e-procurement only- eproc.karnataka.gov.in)**

| Sl. No. | Name of work | Approximate value of lease payment (Rs.) | E.M.D. (Rs.) | Eligibility |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Operation & maintenance of battery operated vehicles – 16 Nos for 5 years at Pilikula. | 65.00 lakhs/ 5 years (excluding GST @ 18%) | 98,000.00 | Registered Firm/ Contractor |

**Last Date & time for submission is 20.12.2022 upto 17:30 hrs.**
**Date of Opening 22.12.2022 at 10:30 hrs.**

For more details on the tender and bidding process you may please visit the above mentioned portal.

DIPR/MNG/954/MPL/22-23

**Sd/-**
**Commissioner**

Government of India
**Department of Atomic Energy**
**Bhabha Atomic Research Centre**
PB No-1, Yelwal PO, Mysore - 571130

**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

On line item rate tender in Two parts i.e. Part-1 –Techno-commercial cum Pre-qualification Bid and Part-2-Financial Bid are hereby invited through e-Tendering mode on behalf of the President of India by Superintending Engineer, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Mysore for the following work from eligible contractors for those having adequate experience and capabilities to execute similar works of such magnitude as detailed in this tender.

| | |
|---|---|
| Tender Reference No. | **Tender No: BARC/MYS/AMD/MDS/PVK/MECH/WT- 01/2022-2023 dtd. 25.11.2022** |
| Name of the Work | "Fabrication of foundation plate and welding of foundation plate to existing structure." |
| Estimated Cost | **Rs. Rs.70,00,000/-** (Rupees Seventy Lakhs only) |
| Earnest Money Deposit | **Rs.1,40,000/-** (Rupees one lakh fourty thousand) |
| Period of Completion | **180 Days** |
| Tender Sale Period | **On LINE** |

The bid forms and other details can be obtained from the https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app. The NIT is also available on www.barc.gov.in. For the details of NIT contact vpraveen@barc.gov.in (0821-2406574/6201) deepthi@barc.gov.in(0821-2406477)

Sd/-
**Superintending Engineer, BARC**
For & on behalf of the President of India

## INBRIEF

### India plans to build more nuclear power plants

India plans to build more nuclear power plants to increase the production of clean energy, the government said on Wednesday. The government has approved five new sites for nuclear power plants and given the financial go-ahead to build 10 700-MW pressurised heavy water reactors, according to a statement. REUTERS

### IRDAI draft signals return of long-term motor cover

Long-term motor insurance packages comprising both Third Party and Own Damage covers are likely to make a comeback with the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) issuing an exposure draft seeking comments from stakeholders. The long-term cover would be for 3 years for private cars and 5 years for two-wheelers. In both the cases, the cover would be co-terminus with the motor third-party liability component, the regulator said in the draft.

### BoI, HDFC Bank follow RBI's signal, raise lending rates

Hours after the Reserve Bank raised the repo rate by 35 basis points, lenders Bank of India and HDFC Bank raised their benchmark lending rates, a move that would result in an increase in EMIs. The effective Repo Based Lending Rate from December 7 is 9.1% as per the revised repo rate (6.25%), Bank of India said. The one-year MCLR, which acts as benchmark for many consumer loans, has increased by 50 basis points to 8.6%, as per the HDFC Bank website. PTI

# RBI tweak to UPI will help in e-com, share purchases: Das

A customer can create a payment mandate against a merchant by blocking funds in bank account, which can be debited when needed, says RBI Governor; central bank also expands ambit of BBPS

**Press Trust of India**
MUMBAI

The RBI on Wednesday said it would add a feature in the UPI platform to aid payments where delivery of goods and services happens later, like with e-commerce purchases, hotel bookings or investments.

"It has... been decided to introduce a single-block-and-multiple-debits functionality in UPI, which will significantly enhance the ease of making payments in e-commerce space and towards investments in securities," RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das said after announcing the bi-monthly policy review. A customer could create a payment mandate against a merchant by blocking funds in his/her bank account, which can be debited when needed, he said.

Such a facility will build greater trust in transactions as merchants will be assured of timely payments, while the funds remain in the customer's account till actual delivery of goods or services, the Governor added.

Mr. Das also announced that the Bharat Bill Payment System (BBPS) will now include all payments and collections.

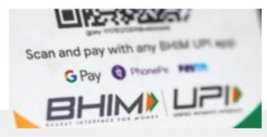
The BBPS currently does not allow non-recurring payments, or collections even if they are recurring in nature, he said.

So, professional service fees, education fees, tax payments, rent collections fall outside the ambit of the platform, he added.

**Question of certainty**

The aim of adding the feature to the Unified Payment Interface (UPI) platform is to help build greater trust

- Merchants will be assured of timely payments, while the funds remain in the customer's account till actual delivery of goods or services
- Bharat Bill Payment System will now enable payment of professional service and education fees, tax and rent payments




# Reserve Bank ready to inject more cash, if needed: Das

**Reuters**
MUMBAI

The Reserve Bank of India is ready to inject additional cash through Liquidity Adjustment Facility (LAF) operations if need arises, Governor Shaktikanta Das said on Wednesday.

"The RBI remains nimble and flexible in its liquidity management operations," Mr. Das said, while announcing the central bank's monetary policy decision to raise key lending rate by 35 basis points.

"So, even though the RBI is in an absorption mode, we are ready to conduct LAF operation that injects liquidity as may be needed," he added.

## MARKETS

### MARKET WATCH

| | WEDNESDAY | % CHANGE |
|---|---|---|
| Sensex | 62,411 | -0.34 |
| US Dollar | 82.47 | -0.04 |
| Gold | 54,054 | 0.29 |
| Brent oil | 78.30 | -2.97 |

### NIFTY 50

| | PRICE | CHANGE |
|---|---|---|
| Adani Enter | 3999.30 | -32.50 |
| Adani Ports | 886.75 | -9.70 |
| Apollo Hosp | 4727.40 | -60.65 |
| Asian Paints | 3226.50 | 64.80 |
| Axis Bank | 914.65 | 10.00 |
| Bajaj Auto | 3634.65 | -60.15 |
| Bajaj Finserv | 1606.70 | -28.55 |
| Bajaj Finance | 6625.20 | -73.35 |
| Bharti Airtel | 834.00 | 0.65 |
| BPCL | 334.35 | 5.80 |
| Britannia Ind | 4393.55 | -30.80 |
| Cipla | 1105.30 | -4.30 |
| Coal India | 229.75 | -1.90 |
| Divis Lab | 3338.25 | -17.65 |
| Dr Reddys Lab | 4361.50 | -12.70 |
| Eicher Motors | 3259.85 | -39.85 |
| Grasim Ind | 1808.20 | -17.85 |
| HCL Tech | 1105.90 | -15.05 |
| HDFC | 2659.85 | -24.25 |
| HDFC Bank | 1610.45 | -0.70 |
| HDFC Life | 581.80 | -5.00 |
| Hero MotoCorp | 2759.55 | -39.25 |
| Hindalco | 464.30 | -5.70 |
| Hind Unilever | 2707.35 | 52.80 |
| ICICI Bank | 922.15 | -0.50 |
| IndusInd Bank | 1164.65 | -19.45 |
| Infosys | 1605.50 | -7.40 |
| ITC | 340.10 | 2.80 |
| JSW Steel | 738.15 | -8.60 |
| Kotak Bank | 1911.45 | -23.80 |
| L&T | 2124.00 | 30.50 |
| M&M | 1266.60 | 3.55 |
| Maruti Suzuki | 8659.15 | -58.20 |
| NestleIndia | 19910.85 | -0.25 |
| NTPC | 171.85 | -3.35 |
| ONGC | 140.65 | -1.80 |
| PowerGrid Corp | 221.05 | -2.45 |
| Reliance Ind | 2650.50 | -39.70 |
| SBI Life | 1262.05 | -23.05 |
| State Bank | 607.05 | -1.90 |
| Sun Pharma | 1017.75 | -15.80 |
| TataConsumerProduct | 799.35 | 1.70 |
| Tata Motors | 420.10 | -7.00 |
| Tata Steel | 111.20 | -1.75 |
| TCS | 3380.60 | -4.75 |
| Tech Mahindra | 1078.05 | -10.75 |
| Titan | 2596.85 | -20.15 |
| UltraTech Cement | 7162.20 | -79.85 |
| UPL | 778.15 | -9.75 |
| Wipro | 406.30 | -5.05 |

### EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on December 07

| CURRENCY | TT BUY | TT SELL |
|---|---|---|
| US Dollar | 82.27 | 82.59 |
| Euro | 86.34 | 86.71 |
| British Pound | 100.19 | 100.62 |
| Japanese Yen (100) | 59.87 | 60.12 |
| Chinese Yuan | 11.79 | 11.84 |
| Swiss Franc | 87.38 | 87.73 |
| Singapore Dollar | 60.57 | 60.81 |
| Canadian Dollar | 60.12 | 60.37 |
| Malaysian Ringitt | 18.70 | 18.79 |
| Australian Dollar | 54.97 | 55.20 |

Source:Indian Bank

# ESMA row: Das says Europe regulators need to trust India's credibility, strength

**Press Trust of India**
MUMBAI

India is very different today than what it was earlier and the developed world needs to trust the credibility and strength of local regulators, RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das said on Wednesday.

In comments that come in the wake of the European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA) and the U.K. derecognising Indian clearing houses, Mr. Das said Indian market infrastructure complies with all international standards.

The ESMA announced that it will stop recognising six major clearing houses from May 1 next year if it was denied permission to audit the entities. Bank of England later followed suit. Experts said such moves could force European lenders to set aside higher capital to continue dealing with non-recognised entities. RBI Deputy Governor T. Rabi Sankar said discussions are on in the matter and the Reserve Bank of India hopes to reach an understanding.

"The point of divergence remains the fact that an Indian entity that does not operate in the European Union... is being subjected to regulation by an EU regulator," he said.

# 'Don't create fear psychosis on CBDC privacy concerns'

**Press Trust of India**
MUMBAI

Asserting that the newly-introduced central bank digital currency does not leave any trail with a bank, RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das said there is no need to create a 'fear psychosis' in the minds of people over privacy concerns.

The pilot on the wholesale central bank digital currency (CBDC) has been very satisfactory, and the RBI is keen to pick up learnings from the ongoing pilot for the retail CBDC and implement them, Mr. Das told reporters at the post-policy press meet.

Deputy Governor T. Rabi Sankar seemed to acknowledge the concerns, but added the RBI was examining solutions to make the CBDC on par with paper currency when it comes to anonymity, which has ensured cash is still used in the developed world.

# Pharma, chemicals, iron, steel exports get RoDTEP boost

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

**Move aimed at adding to export competitiveness given waning global demand for goods**

With India's exports momentum hit by waning global demand, the government on Wednesday decided to extend the Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP) Scheme to the pharmaceuticals, chemicals and iron & steel sectors with effect from December 15.

The RoDTEP scheme, introduced in January 2021 to replace an earlier merchandise export incentive scheme, is meant to provide 'zero rating' of exports or ensure that no domestic taxes are added to goods meant for export.

However, these sectors had been excluded from the scheme so far due to fiscal constraints as well as on the grounds that their exports were doing well even without such benefits. India's goods exports contracted more than 16% in October. Engineering goods, which also include steel products, dropped over 21% to $7.4 billion. Drugs and pharma exports fell more than 9%, while chemical exports slid by a steeper 16.4%.

"When exports are facing headwinds on account of signs of recession in some of the developed markets & supply chain disruptions..., extension of RoDTEP to uncovered sectors... is likely to enhance export competitiveness of these sectors," the Commerce Ministry said.

# India said to lift gas imports to meet summer power demand

**Reuters**
NEW DELHI

India has asked State-run firms to raise imports of natural gas in anticipation of higher power demand next summer, three government sources said, aiming to avoid repeating a power crisis in April.

The Centre has asked GAIL (India) Ltd. to raise supplies to power plants. NTPC Ltd. has been asked to have up to two gigawatts of gas-fired plants ready to produce at full capacity.

# E-visas for U.K. will spur leisure travel to India: Virgin's McEwan

**Jagriti Chandra**
NEW DELHI

India's decision to resume e-visas for travellers from the U.K. will primarily boost leisure travel into the country as demand is expected to remain robust for another 12-18 months, according to Virgin Atlantic's Country Manager, South Asia, Alex McEwan.

"Resumption of e-visas by India is a very significant effort, and is more significant for leisure travel," he said. "Passengers were either postponing their travel or booking it and then delaying it [because of visa processing issues], or had to plan travel three to four months in advance. Now, we expect passengers will be much more willing to travel to India," Mr. McEwan told *The Hindu*.

Alex McEwan

While India was holding back on visas, travellers from the U.K. had several options in Europe and the U.S. as visas were easily available for those destinations.

Virgin Atlantic has seen strong demand from India in the recent past with 95% of its seats out of India being sold in September, a record for this year and higher than the 85% average.

On whether high airfares could persist in 2023, he said factors such as aviation turbine fuel, high exchange rates and passenger demand dynamics were in a direction where a cut in fares was unlikely.

# Ex-BPCL head Arun Singh named ONGC chairman

**Press Trust of India**
NEW DELHI

Arun Kumar Singh, former chairman of BPCL, was on Wednesday named chairman of ONGC – the first instance of a retired person being appointed as the head of a Maharatna PSU.

In a statement, the oil ministry flagged board-level changes. The posts of Director (Production) and Director (Strategy and Corporate Affairs) had been created and will be effective from March 1, 2023.

## Sport

# Mirabai makes light of wrist issue to win silver at World weightlifting

**Sports Bureau**

Olympic silver medallist Mirabai Chanu defied a wrist issue to secure a silver medal in the women's 49kg category at the World weightlifting championships in Bogota on Tuesday.

Mirabai lifted 87kg in snatch and 113kg in clean and jerk to total 200kg and win her second medal in the World championships. She had taken gold in 48kg with an aggregate of 194kg in Anaheim in 2017 and had finished fourth in 49kg with 201kg in Pattaya in 2019.

Mirabai managed to hoist 87kg with some difficulty in her third effort and placed fifth behind Chinese Jiang Huihua (93kg), Romanian Mihaela Cambei (90kg), another Chinese Hou Zhihui (89kg) and Belgian Nina Sterckx (89kg).

In clean and jerk, Mirabai – the world record holder in clean and jerk with 119kg – could not lift 111kg in her opening effort before tasting success in the second and getting into the medal contention. In her final attempt, the Indian matched Huihua's second effort of 113kg to ensure her second international medal of the year after her Commonwealth Games gold (201kg).

**Proud moment**

"It's an emotionally proud moment to bring another World championship medal back home after five long years. The competition is always intense at the highest level. I had a wrist pain but I am always ready to push myself to cross the line for my country," said Mirabai.

"It is a very good result. Despite the problems (relating to Mirabai's wrist), we are on the right track. She could not lift 87kg in her second attempt as her left hand pressed out due to the injury. Same thing happened in the opening clean and jerk attempt. As 113kg would have given her the silver, we did not try a higher weight," chief national coach Vijay Sharma said.

Huihua won her third World title (93kg, 113kg, 206kg). Olympic champion Zhihui, who skipped her third effort after doing 109kg in clean and jerk, took bronze medal (89kg, 109kg, 198kg).

**Proud moment:** Mirabai with her reward. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

# Vijay Kumar puts it across Rahul Baitha in the first round

NATL. SQUASH

**K. Keerthivasan**
CHENNAI

Services' Vijay Kumar sent the (3/4 seed) seed Rahul Baitha of Maharashtra packing with a 11-6, 13-11, 11-3 in the men's first round of the HCL-78th Senior National squash championships here on Wednesday.

Playing a tournament after more than two-and-half years, the 26-year-old appeared hungry and made much of Rahul's weakness at the frontcourt.

The other seed to bow out was Sanika Choudhari (5/8) of Delhi, who went down to Tanishka Jain of Maharashtra 11-9, 11-4, 1-11, 7-11, 5-11 in the women's first round.

**Smooth start:** Vijay Kumar, left, took out Rahul Baitha in straight games. M. VEDHAN

**The results (round of 16, first round):**

**Men:** Abhay Singh (TN) bt Naveen Jangra (SSCB) 11-8, 11-2, 8-11, 11-4; Suraj Chand (Mah) bt Vikas Mehra (TN) 11-9, 10-12, 7-11, 11-4, 11-8; Sandeep Jangra (SSCB) bt Vaibhav Chauhan (SSCB) 11-3, 11-2, 11-7; Vijay Kumar (SSCB) bt Rahul Baitha (Mah) 11-6, 13-11, 11-3; Veer Chotrani (Mah) bt Kanhav Nanavati (TN) 11-8, 11-5, 11-5; S. Velavan (TN) bt Ranjit Singh (SSCB) 11-8, 11-5, 11-3; Harinderpal Singh (TN) bt Jamal Sakib (SSCB) 11-2, 11-8, 12-10; Navaneeth Prabhu (TN) bt Ravi Dixit (Har) 10-12, 11-7, 11-8, 9-11, 11-4.

**Women:** Joshna Chinappa (TN) bt Yashi Jain (Raj) 11-3, 11-6, 11-6; Anjali Semwal (Mah) bt Subhadra Nair (Ker) 11-2, 11-2, 11-3; Akansha Salunkhe (Goa) bt Rathika Seelan (TN) 11-4, 11-4, 11-5; Janet Vidhi (Mah) bt Shameena Riaz (TN) 11-3, 4-11, 11-6, 13-11; Urwashi Joshi (Mah) bt R. Pooja Arthi (TN) 11-5, 11-8, 11-7; Tanishka Jain (Mah) bt Sanika Choudhari (Del) 9-11, 4-11, 11-1, 11-7; 11-5; Tanvi Khanna (Del) bt Sunita Patel (Mah) 11-3, 13-11, 11-2; Anahat Singh (Del) bt Sushmita Panigrahi (Goa) 11-2, 11-2, 11-0.

TOUGH LOSS

## Spain's exit on penalties to Morocco 'cruel': Busquets

Sergio Busquets said Spain's 0-3 defeat to Morocco on penalties was a "cruel" way to decide the World Cup last-16 clash on Tuesday, after the teams drew 0-0. "It was a pity. It was decided on penalties in the most cruel way," said Busquets. "It was tough, very hard for us. We tried to wear them down. We lacked that little luck for the final ball."

NOTHING MORE

## Dropping Ronaldo purely 'strategic', says coach Fernando Santos

Portugal coach Fernando Santos said his decision to leave Cristiano Ronaldo out of his team's 6-1 win over Switzerland had been "strategic and nothing more". Santos had expressed his unhappiness with Ronaldo's reaction to being suspended in the final group stage game against South Korea but he said that matter had no impact.

SITTING IT OUT

## England's Declan Rice forced to miss training with illness

England midfielder Declan Rice missed training ahead of Saturday's quarterfinal with France due to an unspecified illness. Rice did not take part in the session on Wednesday although it was not clear how serious his illness is. Gareth Southgate also was without back-up striker Callum Wilson who continues to deal with a minor strain.

TURNING A PAGE

## Belgium star Hazard quits international football

Belgium star Eden Hazard announced his retirement from international football on Wednesday. "Thank you for your unparalleled support," he posted on Instagram. "Thank you for all this happiness shared since 2008. I have decided to put an end to my international career. The succession is ready. I will miss you."

# Ramos 'tricks as Portugal hits Switzerland for a six

Santos' men give the Swiss a sound thrashing to make it to the quarterfinals where they will take on Morocco; Ronaldo, the Portuguese team's talisman, benched after three peripheral games and comes on as substitute

FIFA WORLD CUP

**Ayon Sengupta**
DOHA

Can one man's absence make a team better? The answer might not be the one that Cristiano Ronaldo fans want to hear.

CR7 was benched after three peripheral games and Portugal was unshackled from the burden of constantly feeding its goal-hungry captain.

He was loud in passion during the national anthem, but the rage, surely, was simmering somewhere in the pits of his guts.

Without the larger-than-life shadow of Ronaldo dwarfing everyone around, Portugal purred like a new machine after the yearly service tuning and replacement of old nuts and bolts. And the five opening goals were the reward that came, and Portugal football's patron saint was paying the price.

**The goal route:** Ramos threads the ball home past Switzerland custodian Sommer. AFP

### Swiss citadel broken

Goncalo Ramos was the focal point of this attack, and he had a hat-trick of goals in his first senior international start as the midfield troika of Bruno Fernandes, Bernardo Silva and Joao Felix used the mobility upfront to unlock the gates of the usually bolted Swiss citadel. "We wanted a team that played with a lot of fluidity. Cristiano is more fixed; he stays in a more determined role towards the box.

"Goncalo has different characteristics: he is very dynamic and that's what he ended up showing us," coach Fernando Santos explained his rationale behind dropping the talisman later.

Ramos's power-packed first whizzed past Yann Sommer and almost tore the net apart, while it was old man Pepe who ghosted between two Swiss defenders to head home the next.

And Ronaldo, too, was sulking no more, joining the celebration with his aged mate.

### One-way traffic

The one-way traffic continued even after the change of ends, with Portugal's third arriving when Diogo Dalot threaded in a pass that allowed Ramos to sneak ahead of his marker Eray Comert and boot it through the legs of Sommer. The Swiss backline was failing to plug the holes and Rapahel Guerreiro ran through one to control a ball from Ramos. With no barricade to shepherd him wide, he took his time to aim and finish with a crisp left-foot drive.

Ramos's hat-trick was completed after an end-to-end move started by Diogo Costa in the Portugal goal. After two swift touches, he chipped the ball above Sommer's dangling legs.

In between, Manuel Akanji toed in a consolation for Switzerland, but its fans were too demoralised to even notice this strike.

And finally, Ronaldo was introduced, and the crowd roared to reassure him of its undying love. The next 18 minutes (+ 4 stoppage time) were his to give this result that Ronaldo gloss, but his goal was ruled offside, and Eusebio stayed ahead of him in Portugal's all-time World Cup scorers list.

It was instead the young Rafael Leao who produced the last bit of magic with a solo curving effort to seal this 6-1 mauling and set up a quarterfinal date with Morocco's desert lions.

**The result:**
Portugal 6 (Ramos 17, 51, 67, Pepe 33, Guerreiro 55, Leao 90+2) bt Switzerland 1 (Akanji 58).

## ...And then there were eight

**Four former champions and two finalists remain in the mix as the Qatar World Cup heads into the quarterfinal stage. A look at the architects, on the field and off it. It is the first time since 1994 that all quarterfinalists have a coach from their own nation. BY PRANAY RAJIV**

■ CROATIA: **Zlatko Dalic** ■ BRAZIL: **Adenor Leonardo Bacchi** (Tite) ■ NETHERLANDS: **Louis van Gaal**
■ ARGENTINA: **Lionel Scaloni** ■ MOROCCO: **Walid Regragui** ■ PORTUGAL: **Fernando Santos**
■ ENGLAND: **Gareth Southgate** ■ FRANCE: **Didier Deschamps**

### Roll of honour

■ Brazil: Winner (1958, 62, 70, 94, 2002); Argentina: Winner (1978, 86); France: Winner (1998, 2018); England: Winner (1966); Netherlands: Runner-up (1974, 78, 2010); Croatia: Runner-up (2018); Portugal: Third place (1966); Morocco: First appearance in the last eight

### ROUND OF 16 ROUND-UP

■ With 28 goals, the Qatar edition witnessed the most strikes in the round of 16 since the introduction of this phase in 1986

■ Portugal's Goncalo Ramos became the first player to perform a hat-trick in his first start in a World Cup game, since Germany's Miroslav Klose in 2002, when he completed his three-peat against Switzerland in the round of 16 on Tuesday

■ When Pepe (39 years 283 days) found the target in the 6-1 win against Switzerland, the Portuguese emerged the second oldest goalscorer in the World Cup after Roger Milla (42 years 39 days), who scored against Russia in 1994

■ Morocco is the fourth African side to reach the quarterfinals after Cameroon (1990), Senegal (2002) and Ghana (2010). **Regragui's men have a chance to become the first African country to go beyond that**

### Top scorers for the quarterfinalists

■ Croatia: **Andrej Kramaric** (2)
■ Brazil: **Richarlison** (3)
■ Netherlands: **Cody Gakpo** (3)
■ Argentina: **Lionel Messi** (3)
■ Morocco: **Hakim Ziyech, Youssef En-Nesyri, Zakaria Aboukhlal and Romain Saiss** (1 each)
■ Portugal: **Goncalo Ramos** (3)
■ England: **Marcus Rashford and Bukayo Saka** (3 each)
■ France: **Kylian Mbappe** (5)

### THE DATES

**QUARTERFINALS**
(1) **Dec. 9:** Croatia vs. Brazil, 8.30 p.m. (IST)
(2) **Dec. 10:** Netherlands vs. Argentina, 00.30 a.m.
(3) **Dec. 10:** Morocco vs. Portugal, 8.30 p.m.
(4) **Dec. 11:** England vs. France, 00.30 a.m.

**SEMIFINALS**
**Dec. 14:** Winner of (1) vs. Winner of (2), 00.30 a.m.
**Dec. 15:** Winner of (3) vs. Winner of (4), 00.30 a.m.

**FOR THIRD PLACE**
**Dec. 17:** Loser of (5) vs. Loser of (6), 8.30 p.m.

**FINAL: DEC. 18:** WINNER OF (5) VS. WINNER OF (6), 8.30 P.M.

## SNAPSHOTS

Abhimanyu. FILE PHOTO

### Abhimanyu hits second successive century

SYLHET: Skipper Abhimanyu Easwaran (144 batting, 231b, 13x4, 2x6) cracked a second successive hundred as India-A reached 324 for five at stumps on day two of the second 'Test' against Bangladesh-A here on Wednesday.
Veteran Cheteshwar Pujara (52, 124b) and K.S. Bharat (77, 132b, 10x4) also warmed up for the Test series with half-centuries as India enjoyed a lead of 72 at stumps.
Abhimanyu added 119 for the second wicket with Pujara, who cracked seven boundaries, while 151 was forged for the fifth wicket with wicketkeeper-batter K.S. Bharat.
**The scores:** Bangladesh-A 252 vs India-A 324/5 (Abhimanyu Easwaran 144 batting, Cheteshwar Pujara 52, K.S. Bharat 77).

Cummins and Smith. AFP

### Cummins set to miss second Test, Smith to lead Australia

ADELAIDE: Steve Smith on Wednesday returned as Australia captain after Pat Cummins failed to recover from an injury and was ruled out of the second Test against the West Indies beginning on Thursday.
Scott Boland, 33, was named as Cummins' replacement by Cricket Australia, while Smith has now been elevated to captaincy for the Day-Night Test.

Warner. AFP

### Warner drops appeal against leadership ban

MELBOURNE: Australia opener David Warner has ended his bid to have his permanent leadership ban lifted, citing concern that a review process set up by Cricket Australia would involve a "public trial" of his part in the Newlands ball-tampering scandal. Warner said he had withdrawn his application to the review panel because he was not prepared to subject his family or teammates to "further trauma and disruption".

### Djokovic to compete at Adelaide International

MELBOURNE: Novak Djokovic will open his 2023 campaign in Adelaide as he prepares for a shot at a 10th Australian Open crown a year after having his visa revoked on the eve of his title defence.

# Injured Rohit nearly pulls it off for India in thrilling finish; Mehidy stars for Bangladesh

INDIA IN BANGLADESH

**Press Trust of India**
MIRPUR

Bangladesh defeated India by five runs in the second ODI to take an unassailable 2-0 lead in the three-match series here on Wednesday.

Opting to bat, Mehidy Hasan Miraz (100 not out) slammed his maiden ODI century and forged a 148-run stand with Mahmudullah (77) to lift Bangladesh to 271 for seven in 50 overs after being reduced to 69 for six in 19 overs.

For India, Washington Sundar was the most successful bowler with figures of three for 37, while Mohammed Siraj and Umran Malik picked up two wickets each.

Chasing, Shreyas Iyer made 82 while Axar Patel scored a run-a-ball 56, but India fell short as it was restricted to 266 for nine in 50 overs. Skipper Rohit Sharma, who split his webbing while fielding, remained unbeaten on 51 off 28 balls.

**Courageous effort:** Rohit, who split his webbing while fielding, came out swinging. AFP

Ebadot Hossain (three for 45) picked up three wickets, while Shakib Al Hasan (two for 39) and Mehidy (two for 46) scalped two wickets apiece.

Bangladesh had also won its last ODI series against at home back in 2015 when Mashrafe Mortaza's men got the better of M.S. Dhoni and Co. The series loss also forces India to go back to the drawing board with the World Cup less than 12 months away.

### SCOREBOARD

**BANGLADESH**
Anamul Haque lbw b Siraj 11 *(9b, 2x4)*, Litton Das b Siraj 7 *(23b, 1x4)*, Najmul Hossain Shanto b Umran 21 *(35b, 3x4)*, Shakib Al Hasan c Dhawan b Washington 8 *(20b, 1x4)*, Mushfiqur Rahim c Dhawan b Washington 12 *(24b, 2x4)*, Mahmudullah c Rahul b Umran 77 *(96b, 7x4)*, Afif Hossain b Washington 0 *(1b)*, Mehidy Hasan Miraz (not out) 100 *(83b, 8x4, 4x6)*, Nasum Ahmed (not out) 18 *(11b, 2x4, 1x6)*; Extras (b-1, lb-3, w-11, nb-2): 17; Total (for seven wkts. in 50 overs): 271.

**FALL OF WICKETS**
1-11 (Anamul, 1.5 overs), 2-39 (Litton, 9.2), 3-52 (Shanto, 13.1), 4-66 (Shakib, 16.6), 5-69 (Mushfiqur, 18.5), 6-69 (Afif, 18.6), 7-217 (Mahmudullah, 46.1).

**INDIA BOWLING**
Chahar 3-0-12-0, Siraj 10-0-73-2, Shardul 10-1-47-0, Umran 10-2-58-2, Washington 10-0-37-3, Axar 7-0-40-0.

**INDIA**
Virat Kohli b Ebadot 5 *(6b, 1x4)*, Shikhar Dhawan c Mehidy b Mustafizur 8 *(10b, 1x4)*, Shreyas Iyer c Afif b Mehidy 82 *(102b, 6x4, 3x6)*, Washington Sundar c Litton b Shakib 11 *(19b, 1x4)*, K.L. Rahul lbw b Mehidy 14 *(28b)*, Axar Patel c Shakib b Ebadot 56 *(56b, 2x4, 3x6)*, Shardul Thakur st. Mushfiqur b Shakib 7 *(23b)*, Deepak Chahar c Shanto b Ebadot 11 *(18b, 1x6)*, Rohit Sharma (not out) 51 *(28b, 3x4, 5x6)*, Mohammed Siraj b Mahmudullah 2 *(12b)*, Umran Malik (not out) 0 *(0b)*; Extras (b-4, lb-2, w-11, nb-2): 19; Total (for nine wkts. in 50 overs): 266.

**FALL OF WICKETS**
1-7 (Kohli, 1.5), 2-13 (Dhawan, 2.5), 3-39 (Washington, 9.6), 4-65 (Rahul, 18.3), 5-172 (Shreyas, 34.6), 6-189 (Axar, 38.2), 7-207 (Shardul, 42.4), 8-213 (Chahar, 45.1), 9-252 (Siraj, 48.6).

**BANGLADESH BOWLING**
Mehidy 6.1-0-46-2, Ebadot 10-0-45-3, Mustafizur 10-1-43-1, Nasum 10-0-54-0, Shakib 10-1-39-2, Mahmudullah 3.5-0-33-1.

**Toss:** Bangladesh; **MoM:** Mehidy
*Bangladesh won by five runs to take an unassailable 2-0 lead in three-match series.*
**Third and final ODI: December 10**, Chattogram, 11.30 a.m. IST.

## INBRIEF

### Thalaivas race past Yoddhas, seal a spot in playoffs

Tamil Thalaivas defeated UP Yoddhas 43-28 to book a berth in the playoffs of the Pro Kabaddi League in Hyderabad on Wednesday. Bengaluru Bulls stayed on track for a third place finish after defeating Patna Pirates 57-44 in the first game of the day. Bharat emerged the best player for Bulls with 20 points.

### Prannoy loses to Naraoka in BWF World Tour Finals

India's H.S. Prannoy fought hard before going down in three games to rising Japanese Kodai Naraoka in the opening men's singles group-A match at the BWF World Tour Finals here on Wednesday.

The World No. 12 Indian showed superb recovery after the opening game reversal and kept fighting in the decider before three unforced errors at the back end saw him lose 11-21, 21-9, 17-21 in an hour long contest. It was his second defeat to the Japanese, having suffered a loss in their only meeting in Singapore Open in July.

**LIVE TELECAST**

**Australia vs West Indies**: 2nd Test, day 1, Sony LIV, 9.30 a.m.
**BWF World Tour Finals**: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Voot Select, 9.30 a.m.
**I-League**: Eurosport (SD & HD), 2 & 4.30 p.m.
**ISL**: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 7.30 p.m.
**PKL**: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 7.30 p.m. onwards

# Gokulam Kerala finds its scoring rhythm again

Shijin strikes twice for the defending champion after Ndo nets the first goal; Sudeva's misery continues as the Delhi team waits to get off the mark in the points table

**I-LEAGUE**

**P.K. Ajith Kumar**
MANJERI

A goal had been as hard to come by for Gokulam Kerala as a win on the current Bangladesh tour for the Indian cricket team. That explained the broad smile on owner V.C. Praveen's face at the dugout when the I-League defending champion opened the scoring in the 53rd minute against Sudeva Delhi on Wednesday.

Gokulam had scored just three goals in its five matches. That tally has doubled, as it defeated Sudeva Delhi 3-0 at the Malappuram District Sports Complex Stadium.

**Heady stuff:** Shijin scores one of his two goals against Sudeva.
SAKEER HUSSAIN

It was a badly needed victory for the host – the first since the second match. For the Delhi side, the defeat was its fifth in as many games, but this one wasn't anywhere as one-sided as the scoreline might indicate.

After a barren opening half, Sudeva had even threatened to score early on in the second. But Gokulam drew first blood with Dodi Ndo driving in an excellent throw-in from Subhankar Adhikari.

A couple of minutes later, Sudeva could have equalised, but Shubho Paul squandered the excellent pass into the box from Francis Nwankwo.

Then T. Shijin's twin strike – off a cross from P.N. Noufal and then from a pass by V.S. Sreekuttan – ensured there was no end for the Delhi side's wait for a point in the league.

Gokulam has moved into third place with 11 points.

**The result: At Manjeri:** Gokulam 3 (Dodi Ndo 53, T. Shijin 62 & 70) bt Sudeva Delhi 0.

**At Vasco:** Churchill 2 (Raju Gaikwad, Pedro Tanausu Placeres) bt Mohammedan Sporting 1 (S.K. Faiaz).

# Ankita Raina drives Panthers to victory

**TPL**

**Sports Bureau**

Ankita Raina played a sterling role in guiding Gujarat Panthers to a 45-35 victory over Mumbai Leon in the Tennis Premier League (TPL) in Pune on Wednesday. Ankita, who opened with a 13-7 victory over Valeriya Strakhova, partnered with Divij Sharan for a 12-8 vicory over Strakhova and Jeevan Nedunchezhiyan in the match played on 20-point format.

In the opening match, Delhi Binny's Brigade tied 40-40 with host Pune Jaguars and in the third match of the day, the all-foreign team of Punjab Tigers was tamed by Bengaluru Spartans 47-33.

**The results (league):**
**Bengaluru Spartans bt Punjab Tigers 47-33** (Karman Thandi tied with Diana Marcinkevica 10-10; Sidharth Rawat bt Denis Istomin 13-7; Karman & Vishnu Vardhan bt Diana & Malek Jaziri 11-9; Sidharth & Vishnu bt Istomin & Jaziri 13-7).

**Gujarat Panthers bt Mumbai Leon 45-35** (Ankita Raina bt Valeriya Strakhova 13-7; Manish Sureshkumar lost to Ramkumar Ramanathan 9-11; Divij sharan & Ankita bt Strakhova & Jeevan Nedunchezhiyan 12-8; Manish & Divij bt Jeevan & Ramkumar 11-9).

**Delhi Binny's Brigade tied with Pune Jaguars 40-40** (Sowjanya Bavisetti bt Rutuja Bhosale 12-8; Mohamed Dougaz lost to Arjun Kadhe 9-11; Sowjanya & Siddhant Banthia lost to Rutuja & Vijay Sundar Prashanth 8-12; Banthia & Dougaz bt Arjun & Vijay 11-9)

**Hyderabad Strikers bt Chennai Stallions 48-32** (Conny Perrin bt Ekaterina Kazionovo 12-8; Niki Poonacha bt Mathias Bourgue 12-8; Conny & Sriram Balaji tied with Ekaterina & Anirudh Chandrashekhar 10-10; Poonacha & Balaji bt Bourgue & Anirudh 14-6).

## BENGALURU ROUND-UP

### Vittal stars in Spartons' win

Vittal Habib's century (108) helped Spartons SC defeat Jeevanbhimanagar CC by 83 runs in the KSCA (Group I) fourth division league-cum-knockout tournament.

**The scores:** Young Challenging Cricketers 269 in 49.1 overs (S. Vishnu Viran 97, Abu 31, V. Saatwik 64, Ronith Iyengar 27, Abdul Shymrid Changez 3/60) bt Eleven Brothers, Magadi 114 in 26.5 overs (Samarth Hegde 32, Ronith Iyengar 5/27).

Sirupark SC 96 in 23.3 overs (Anish John 43 n.o., N.C. Aiyappa 5/33) lost to Blue Diamond Cricketers 97/2 in 10.4 overs (Bharath Chipli 64 n.o.).

Sparklers 121 in 30.2 overs (B. Vijay Prakash 39, K. Ambresh 3/24, V.N. Rajath Nag 6/19) lost to Palace Orchard 124/4 in 21 overs (S. Naveen 63 n.o., Ashiq Ali 26 n.o.).

Merchant (1) 241 in 50 overs (K.B. Pruthviraj 67, U.V. Vishruth Dev 36, H.S. Sathish Kumar 55, Akshay A. Kamath 32, C.B. Mani 3/32) bt Crescent (1) 131 in 33.3 overs (M. Karthik 47, Sathar Mohammad Adnan 44, Aarush Sunandanan 4/15).

Jayanagar United Cricketers 184 in 42.4 overs (Ajendra Suresh 42, G.T. Sunil Kaushik 43, Sachin R. Gankal 3/28, Ismail 3/25) lost to Victory 186/2 in 32.3 overs (Sireesh Balgaar 95 n.o., A.S. Rahul 44).

Shanthinagar Cricketers 105 in 31 overs (Mayank Dadhwal 41, H.D. Sanjith 3/34) lost to Jayanagar Cricketers 106/2 in 14.2 overs (R. Praveen Kumar 63, Krishiv Bajaj 25).

Spartons SC 293/8 in 50 overs (Vittal Habib 108, Mohammed Muttallib 72, M. Maheeb 33, Mohammed Issaq Shariff 30, Karan Kumar Sharma 3/50) bt Jeevanbhimanagar 210 in 45.5 overs (S. Mubarak 80, B.M. Kiran Kumar 33, Mohammad Ashfaq 4/39).

Malleswaram United 161 in 41.1 overs (N.M. Shashank 27, Prathap 40, M.L. Praveen Kumar 3/31) lost to Young Lions Club 165/3 in 19.1 overs (Deepak Shanker 59, N. Gopinath Saandra 46, H. Sarvesh Raju 35).

Friends Cricket Team 171 in 38.4 overs (Fahad Ahmed 64, Aayush Kothari 46, G. Prasanna 6/43) bt YFA SC 162 in 30.5 overs (Anil K. Vishwanath 35, K. Sharan 26, A. Bhaskaran 42, Aayush Kothari 5/34, F. Mohammed Asif 3/28).

Maharana 215/9 in 50 overs (Darshan U. Jain 26, Deshbhandari Sadashiva Shyamsundar 26, Bhuvan Vishwanth 33, Nishant Kothari 51) lost to Merchants (2) 218/5 in 38.3 overs (V. Chiranth 79, H. Amogh 74 n.o., N.J. Gowtham 37 n.o.).

### Kalyan nets the winner for Shri Hanuman Blessing

Kalyan Ballary scored a 49th-minute winner as Shri Hanuman Blessing HC, Gadag, edged Gulbarga HC 4-3 in the KSHA B-division hockey league here on Wednesday.

**The results:** Shri Hanuman Blessing HC, Gadag 4 (Laxman Karwar 3, Maruti Ballary 24, Abhishek 33, Kalyan Ballary 49) bt Gulbarga HC 3 (Nishanth 11, Feroz Ustad 26, Sonel Kaladgi 40).

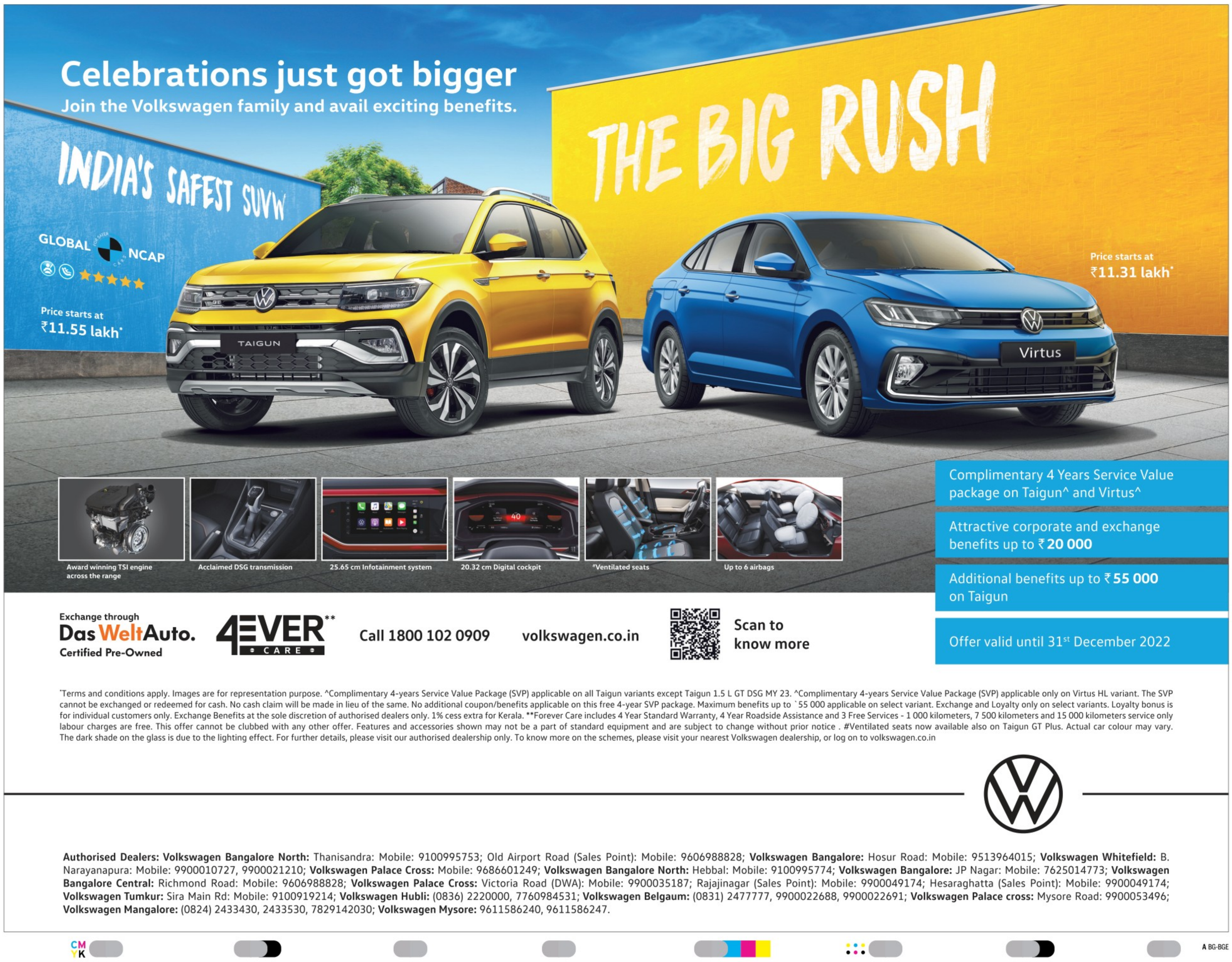
### Haritha sends Harshini packing

Second seed Haritha Venkatesh was packed off by Harshini Nagaraj 6-4, 6-3 in the quarterfinals of the Bren Asian Junior Tour (16 & under) tennis event at the Topspin Tennis Academy here on Wednesday.

**The results (quarterfinals):**
**Boys:** Aradhya Kshitij bt Kevin Titus Suresh 6-3, 1-6, 7-6(4); M. Diganth bt Prakaash Sarran 3-6, 6-4, 6-3; P. Loganathan bt Nishit Arimilli 6-4, 6-3; P. Saravanakumar bt Suhas Soma 6-3, 6-3.

**Girls:** Jaya Kapoor bt Angel Patel 6-4, 6-1; R. Kakarlamudi bt Krishna Raj 6-2, 6-2; Sree Tanvi Dasari bt Isheeta Midha 6-3, 6-3; Harshini Nagaraj bt Haritha Venkatesh 6-4, 6-3.

### Big win for Karnataka

Half-centuries from G.R. Prerana (84 n.o.) and Roshini Kiran (66) helped Karnataka thrash Haryana by nine wickets in the BCCI U-19 Women's One Day Trophy in Chennai on Wednesday.

**The scores:** Haryana 187/9 in 50 overs (Triveni Vasistha 56, Tanisha Ohlan 25, Neha Kaushik 38) lost to Karnataka 188/1 in 40.4 overs (Roshini Kiran 66, G.R. Prerana 84 n.o.).